

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

Ernest Hellings, 16, was charged with maliciously stabbing Charles Downs, who was unable to appear. Downs has sustained three wounds, one of which the prisoner admitted he had caused, but declared that he only meant to "let him go." On Downs to make him "let him go." On the prisoner were found a six-chambered revolver, a powder flask, and shots. He stated that he was going to use the revolver for protection on his father's farm.—He was remanded on bail.

Nearly four hundred schemes for rabbit
lation have been proposed to the New South
Ministry.

"HOW I WAS ASPHYXIATED."

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own following, but not anticipating it. However, having fastened the door, I returned to business of dressing, unpacked my basket, my hair, &c., and put on the skirt of my dress. All this time—perhaps a quarter of an hour—had no idea that I was, in effect, slowly dying. I remember once saying to myself in a peculiar dreamy voice, "I hope I am not going to be!" But that is all I can remember, which proves conclusively that I was not conscious of what happened after I had put on the skirt of dress. I only know from the narration of the Secretary told me afterwards that when came, according to his promise, to summon me eight o'clock, he found the door locked, and his knocking and calling having no effect, fancied I must have dropped asleep from fatigue. On consulting the committee, they broke open the door, when, to their horror, they found me dead and stiffly dead on the floor, and all my intents and purposes I was dead, for had I not left me alone I should never have recovered consciousness again. Some one rushed upon the stage, however, to announce to the assembled audience that I was too ill to appear, and to that there was a doctor in the house. A gentleman amongst them kindly proffered his services and came to my dressing-room, when he immediately pronounced me dead. I was then praying for—by other words life was extinct. The committee, however, not being satisfied, summoned three more medical men, who threw open all the windows and doors, blistered me over heart and on the temples, and finally carried (still unconscious) in their arms back to hotel, where, at eleven o'clock the same night, I awoke up to this life again, having been totally insensible for three hours and a half. When I awoke I remembered, I found myself lying on floor, my bed-room, striking the backs of my hands violently on the carpet, and making loud clacking sound with my tongue against palate of my mouth. My first feeling on recovery was one of intense fear. I thought I was in a state that I was going to have fits for the rest of my life. When I found that I was surrounded by strangers, who kept on shaking me, and endeavoring to wake me up, I said to myself, "I was in an English mail that very day, flashed across my mind, and another fear assailed me of the man to which they might ascribe my illness." "Doctor," I cried piteously, "don't let them say in papers that I was *tigra*!" But still I was

[The sketch on view in our Gallery next week will be "OLD SHILLING'S BUSH WEDDING," by Mrs. CAMPBELL PRAED.]

Some additional details have been obtained of the explosion near St. Albans, briefly reported

At Kenagh, near Longford, on Saturday, a special court under the Criminals Act was held, when 12 men were sentenced to one month's imprisonment each for intimidating a young man named Nettle who is a member of the Longford Harriers Club.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH IN THE THAMES.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF A SCHOOL MASTER

engaged, with several of his officers, endeavouring to obtain a clue to the death of David Blore, a

The advisability of acquiring the local water works for the town is being considered by the Folkestone corporation.

Aniseed, *Sassafras*, *Sassa*, &c. (with *C. Brodyne*), 141; *Lith*
Catharticum Pills, a pleasant aperient, 94), 14, 14d., &c.; *K*
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ey, Cough Lozenges, a Medicated Linseed Extract. Sold by
Chemists.--(Advt.)

OUR LIBRARY

Mr. O. H. Carter, of 32, Tension-street, Lambeth, has forwarded to us a large parcel of music, containing waltzes, polkas, redowas, and marches, quick and slow. We have not had time to deal with them carefully, but a tuneless march, "Our Gallant Volunteers," should meet with public approval. If the music in general is as excellent as the printing, Mr. Carter thoroughly deserves success.

At the Mansion House Police Court on Wednesday, a young man named Charles Neal was

SINGULAR ASSAULT CASE:

Police Court, with wounding Harry Tindall, baker.—The prosecutor, who was brought from

Henry J. Howard, of 33, Spey-street, Bromley-by-Bow, was seized with sudden illness Saturday, and expired almost instantly. The deceased, who was a retired butcher, was 77 years of age.

dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps' Glycerine Syrup.

in contact with the glands at the moment they are excited in the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections is actively healing. Sold only in boxes of 12, this is the "Abbeled" **JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England**. Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Sore and Throat Diseases" says: "The Glycerine Jububes prepared by James Epps & Co. are of undoubted value in the treatment of sore or palliative agent while Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial I have found your Glycerine Jububes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."—**Adm.**

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE."
 Sir.—In your issue of the 25th ult. appears

On Saturday the engine of a mineral train ran off

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THE THEATRES.

HAYMARKET.

A first night at the Haymarket is always a pleasurable anticipation to lovers and students of the stage, for the reason that it has long since become a tradition of this house, the recognised headquarters of pure comedy and drama, to produce the best procurable pieces in the best possible style. But whether "Partners," the new comedy-drama written by Mr. E. Buchanan, and brought out on Thursday night by Mr. Beerbohm Tree, will take rank among the highest presentations of this theatre, time alone will tell. The critical verdict upon the performance, taken purely upon its merits, cannot, however, be altogether so favourable as that with which in the main the good-natured audience greeted the play. The plot of "Partners," which follows that of Daudet's novel, "Fromont Jeune et Risler Aine," quite closely, raves in its ending, presents a middle-aged German merchant, who has worked his way up from the position of clerk in the office of the eminent London lawyer, to the position of a partner in a large and successful firm, which he is the only one of the partners to have made his money in. This simple-minded man, who has for his junior partner a young fellow less honest in nature though more attractive personally than himself, who, framed to make women false, takes a base advantage of his senior's absence on business abroad not only to dissipate the capital of the firm to the point of ruin, but to attempt that of the young wife of his worthy but somewhat humdrum partner. From this pollution the lady, a former sweetheart of the junior merchant, who saved her from a moral struggle, at the crucial moment of yielding to his advances, is preceded a still graver fall, by the sudden apparition of her little daughter. The husband returns to his office to learn from his old and confidential chief clerk of the double breach of trust committed by his partner. Crushed at hearing of this simultaneous wreck of the affections of his heart and the commercial honour of his house, the hardly used merchant, before returning home to confront his errant wife, sits down to write over his ledger with a view to ascertain the extent of the defalcation, in order that by work and sacrifice of all he possesses he may retrieve, if possible, the failing credit of his firm. That done, at a late hour of the night he wends his way home, arriving there at the moment his wife is struggling for the second time to free herself from the arms of her treacherous lover. Believing her to have actually fallen, the indignant husband passionately refuses to hear any excuse from the wretched woman, wrenches the wedding ring from his finger, and dismisses her straightway from his house. In the humble cottage, to which, with his little girl, the merchant has retired, the truth of the actual salvation of his wife's honour by the unconscious agency of their child is brought home to him through the perusal of a letter, written by the mother to the baffled seducer, in which, after upbraiding him for his cowardly assault upon her honour, she bids him never to enter her presence again. This letter, intercepted by the confidential clerk, and handed by him to his master on the night of his return from abroad, the merchant, from an over nice sense of delicacy in the circumstances, has refused to open, although its superscription is in the handwriting of his wife, simply because it is not addressed to himself. The perusal of the document leads up to the introduction of the compromised, but not absolutely guilty, wife, who receives the forgiveness she implores in the arms of her husband. The play, though wanting in freshness of incident and characterisation, might be interesting enough to engage attention and hold the sympathy of an audience, were it not for so intolerably long drawn out, lasting, as it did, from eight o'clock until half past eleven, three and a half months. At least an hour must be "sawn out of the acts"—as poor H. J. Byron phrased it—if "Partners" is to be made attractive. In his impersonation of the Anglo-German merchant, Mr. Beerbohm Tree as usual with him, presented by his excellent make-up a perfect character to the eye. In respect of the acting, like all Mr. Tree's assumptions, this, his latest effort, beginning and ending admirably in interest and effect as it developed by reason of a persistent monotony of expression. Without the brightening relief of humour, save in one welcome touch, the German merchant is throughout so sentimental under all circumstances as to become a maudlin. Mr. Tree, failing to differentiate artistically, misses his opportunities. For instance, upon the news of his double calamity being broken to the merchant, he expresses natural emotion at his partner's perfidy in exactly the same whining and treacherous tone that he uses in the scene of the inactivity of his wife. The weakness of the breakdown under the domestic trial, instead of being identical with, should be contrasted against, the force of resolution to face and overcome the commercial crisis, shown in the sudden change, when the business difficulty is approached, to a quick, firm, incisive manner, from which every trace of sentiment should disappear. Mr. Tree has yet to learn the value of light and shade in feeling as induced by varying motives and displayed in sympathetic contrast. As the respectable old clerk, Mr. H. Kemble acted naturally. The part of the unprincipled junior partner was rendered as little repulsive as possible by the quiet earnestness of Mr. L. Cautley. As a bombastic retired actor—a cross between Captain Costigan and Vincent Crummies—Mr. C. Brookfield exhibited much artistic humour, which unluckily ran to waste because the character, belonging in no way to the plot, was simply patched upon it. The young wife, as delineated by Miss Marion Terry, proved to be a graceful and sympathetic character, but acted, as it seemed, with less fire and intensity of passion than has hitherto been exhibited by this lady. Miss Achurch played a devoted sister of the peccant wife with sincerity; but as regards tone and appearance, upon a lower social level. The repulsive part of a wicked woman of fashion was enacted by Miss G. Kingston, a debutante, with faithfulness to the character and a certain distinction, though wanting in the repose of manner, ease of movement, and accomplishment of these things which only stage practice can give. Minor parts were taken effectively by Messrs. Eric Lewis and Stewart Dawson, Miss Le Thiere, Miss E. Gratton, and a little daughter of Mr. Charles Terry, who made her entrance to the stage with pretty artlessness as the merchant's child. At a call for the author, given with some evidences of dissent, Mr. Tree stated Mr. Buchanan was not in the house, but he would convey to him the approval "generally expressed by the audience."

THEATRICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Yet another blank in the matter of stage news, and so it will go on until the pantomime season begins to wane, and managers are preparing novel attractions. As a matter of fact, the only news of the last week regarding the theatre business of pleasure toils of disaster. First, there is the burning of the Bolton Theatre, presumably by the incendiary, as the taps of the sprinklers were found to be turned off. This fire results in an estimated loss of £15,000. Almost simultaneously the Antwerp Alhambra playhouse was consumed in the same way. On the other hand, fate, as it were, in mockery, has just seen another playhouse, the Beaumarchais, at Paris, almost wrecked by the bursting of the water main, constructed to extinguish a fire. A fire also broke out on Tuesday at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, which, though it destroyed some valuable scenery, was not serious enough to prevent the performance on the same night. The effect of these accidents is to send up the rate of fire insurance. The St. James's, for instance, now pays two guineas per cent., whereas the rate used to be but a guinea and a half. This premium for theatres, be it noted, is just twenty-eight times the rate saved for private dwellings, which of course means twenty-eight times the risk. For Covent Garden as much as two and a half guineas per cent. is charged; the lowest rate being for the Adelphi, for which 30s. per cent. only is demanded, presumably because the Messrs. Gatti's playhouse

is illuminated by electricity instead of gas. The hundredth performance of "The Winter's Tale" at the Lyceum, and "The Sultan of Mocha" at the Strand, has just been reached. The latter entertainment will shortly be withdrawn, as also will be Mr. H. A. Jones's comedy, "Heart of Hearts," from the Vaudeville, giving place to a comedy by Mr. E. Buchanan. The "Boswell" reopens with a revival of "La Grande Duchesse."—Probably the highest price ever paid by a single individual for a single theatrical entertainment—£500—was given lately to M. Coquelin by Mr. Vanderbilt, for a performance on board of his yacht off Constantinople, when the American plutocrat and his wife constituted the entire audience.

SUSPECTED THEATRE AND OMNIBUS THIEVES.

At Bow-street Police Court on Wednesday, Walter Charrington, 36, who said he came from Birmingham, was charged with being a suspected person, loitering in the neighbourhood of the Adelphi Theatre for the purpose of committing felonies.—Detective-sergeant Weidner deposed that as the audience was leaving the theatre he saw the prisoner and five other persons enter the crowd, and walk towards Bedford-street. At the corner of the men placed themselves in front of a gentleman, and two behind, while the prisoner placed himself by his side, and made a deliberate attempt to steal his watch. The witness saw him with his hand on the chain, and heard the gentleman say, "What are you doing, you scoundrel?" The prisoner forced his way through the crowd, and returned to the entrance of the theatre, followed by his confederates. They then followed a lady and gentleman to the corner of Bedford-street, and the prisoner was seen to lift the lady's jacket, and place his hand in her pocket. At that moment one of the men cried "Edge," intimating to the prisoner that he was being watched. Weidner immediately seized him and one of his companions. One of them escaped, but the prisoner, with the assistance of a uniform constable, was secured. The witness said the prisoner had been seen by Detective Tremblett in the earlier part of the evening, accompanied by other men. While two of the men were engaged in hustling their intended victims, the other two were watching to give the alarm if the prisoner's movements were under the observation of the police.—Mr. Vaughan remanded the prisoner for inquiries to be made concerning him.

"There's a Rosser!"

At the same police court on Tuesday, William Baker, aged 21, was charged with being a suspected person loitering in the neighbourhood of High Holborn for the purpose of committing felonies.—Detectives Nichols and Pedders deposed the prisoner and two other men acting in a very suspicious manner. They were seen to make several attempts to pick the pockets of ladies as they were about to enter omnibuses. At the corner of Southampton-row they succeeded in opening a lady's hand-bag. At that moment the prisoner said to his companions, "There's a Rosser."—Mr. Vaughan: "That is a new name, is it not?"—Witness: "Yes, and means a detective. Prisoner then ran away. Nichols followed and captured him, while Pedders asked the lady if she had lost anything. She replied that she had not, and declined to come to the station.—Prisoner was remanded.—Albert Denard, aged 31, described as a carpenter; Charles Duffy, 22, also described as a carpenter, and his wife, Elizabeth Duffy, were charged with being concerned together in stealing a watch belonging to Mr. Eugene John Moss, 7, Whitnall-road, Fulham.—Detective-sergeant Enright and Detective Tremblett saw the three prisoners and another man in Villiers-street, and were induced to watch them. They followed them to the Charing Cross Underground Station, where they took tickets to Westminster Bridge. This was at ten minutes past eleven, and a train was in the station. The prisoners hustled several persons who were about to enter the train. The accused did not enter the train, but waited until the arrival of the next, when they pursued the same tactics, and the woman was seen to place her hand upon a lady's ulster. Six trains for Westminster left the station, and during that time the officers had the prisoners under observation. At half past eleven prosecutor arrived with his wife and another lady, and prisoners hustled them.—Mr. Moss deposed that he was separated from the ladies and showed from behind. On rejoining his wife and entering the carriage he found his watch had been stolen. He immediately alighted and found that the prisoners had been taken into custody by the detectives.—They were charged with the robbery, and were now remanded for inquiries.

A ROBBER WHO MET HIS MATCH.

At the Marylebone Police Court, James Corke, 29, a tall, rough-looking, and raggedly-dressed man, was charged with stealing 4s., the money of Elizabeth Cocks, a head schoolmistress, staying at Eaton-road, Hampstead, also with assaulting Mr. Edward E. Davostan, a gentleman residing at Queen's-crescent, Haverstock Hill.—The prosecutor said she was walking along Port-road, Hampstead, between half past three and four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, when the prisoner rushed up to her and seized hold of a parcel she was carrying. It was fastened to her handbag, and finding he could not detach it he grasped hold of her bag and tugged at that with all his strength. But the bag was suspended by a cord round her neck, and the prisoner again failed in his efforts, although he dragged her by the neck cord some distance down the road. A severe struggle ensued, the prisoner trying to get possession of the bag and she trying to resist him. That went on for some minutes, and then, finding he could not effect his purpose, he tore the bag open, and in the struggle the contents of the bag fell to the ground. The prisoner was picking the money up when a gentleman in a carriage stopped, came to her assistance, and went after the prisoner. She had a quantity of gold in her purse, which was attached to her bag. She had recovered all her money except about 4s. or 5s.—Mr. Davostan said his attention was drawn to her by the sound of the carriage and got within ten yards of them, when the prisoner caught sight of him and ran off. He chased him for some distance during which the prisoner repeatedly threatened what he would do if he continued to follow him, but he told the prisoner he should do so, no matter how far he went. Then Corke stopped dead, but, happening to be a good boxer, he was able to protect himself, and at the same time deal the prisoner some heavy blows. The prisoner then tried to bite him and to kick him, so he had to pin him against some buildings until assistance came.—Mr. De Rutzen told the witness the public were very much indebted to him for the valuable services he had rendered.—Constable Partridge said he was called to the spot, and found the last witness and the prisoner struggling up and down in the road. Witness took him into custody, and he said he would go quietly, but when only a few yards away he threw witness down twice and kicked him on the knee, injuring it. It took five constables to get the prisoner to the station.—Mr. De Rutzen ordered a remand.

RUN OVER AND KILLED.

An inquest was held on Wednesday as to the death of Mrs. E. Gibbs, wife of a land agent, residing in Ebury-street, Piccadilly.—Evidence was given that the lady was run over by a van, and received such serious injuries that she died shortly afterwards in the hospital. It appeared that the vehicle was driven very rapidly, and was on the wrong side of the road. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Alfred Winwood, the driver, and he was taken into custody.

RHEUMATISM cured by COLMAN'S Concentrated Mustard Oil. Sold by all Grocers and Chemists, at 1/- per bottle.—Advt.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE GRAND THEATRE.

The Schemes for Relief.

By permission of Miss Mary Anderson, a meeting of the committee formed for the purpose of raising a fund for the sufferers from the burning of the Grand Theatre, Islington, was held in the saloon of the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday. Lord Londesborough took the chair, and amongst those present were Sir Albert Rolitt, Mr. Wilson Barrett, Mr. E. Terry, Mr. E. Ledger, Mr. Macklin, and a number of London managers and prominent actors.—Lord Londesborough said the first thing to do was to press upon the public the great misery which had been occasioned by the fire. He was afraid there would be rather more difficulty in raising funds in this instance than the occasion of the Alhambra fire, as the Grand was not so well known. Every effort should be made to induce a charitable disposed public to liberally subscribe. The committee had paid away the interest on the Alhambra fund to the sum of £72, but he did not think it advisable to touch the balance of the fund, which amounted to £500. The committee were of opinion that it would be well to amalgamate all the funds, and that one benefit at a great London theatre would be preferable to a number of independent benefit performances at the theatre, and the lessee of Drury Lane and Covent Garden had been approached on the subject. He had no doubt that this performance would greatly increase the fund.—After some discussion, Sir Albert Rolitt proposed that the steps taken by the provisional committee should be approved, and that the committee should proceed to elect their executive officers. This motion was carried unanimously. Mr. E. Ledger and Mr. Townley were appointed joint treasurers. Mr. Ledger said the money he had received amounted to £215, and was at the London and County Bank. Mr. Townley said that he had received, inclusive of the Daily Telegraph fund, £438. Messrs. C. G. Compton and Freeman were appointed secretaries. Mr. Wilson Barrett said he thought Miss Anderson's offer should be accepted. This was agreed to. In the discussion that followed it was announced that benefit performances had been offered by the Mohawk Minstrels, Deacons' and Collins's Music Halls, and Sadler's Wells Theatre. It was decided to accept these offers, and the Grand, except that all the principal artists at the Grand, except Mr. Wilson Barrett, various sums of money were voted to the employees of the theatre to relieve their immediate wants, and an executive committee was appointed. It was decided to do all possible for the injured man, Fairclough, when he came out of hospital, and to take into the immediate consideration of the executive the position of Mr. Wilnot. It was suggested by Mr. Barrett that a benefit should be given to Mr. Wilnot at a London theatre later.

Immediate Rebuilding of the Theatre.

It has been determined to immediately proceed with the rebuilding of the theatre, which it is intended to reconstruct, if possible, in Easter. The company of the national theatre. The operation of pumping out the immense quantity of water in the basement and clearing the debris began on Dec. 30. Mr. Matcham, the architect of the original building, expresses confidence in being able to restore the theatre by Easter, when it will be entirely lighted by electricity.

BURNING OF A BOLTON THEATRE.

The Theatre Royal, Bolton, was destroyed by fire early on Wednesday morning. The theatre, where the pantomime "Blue Beard" was being played, was safe at midnight, the usual inspection having been made after the performance. About one o'clock a policeman saw flames shooting up from the roof, and at once gave an alarm. The fire brigade were quickly in attendance and worked indefatigably to save the building. The flames, however, defied their efforts, and after the fire had burned for three hours the roof fell in. The building was burned out, all the properties being destroyed. The loss is estimated at not less than £15,000. Adjoining the theatre is the Star Hotel. The inmates, among whom the greatest alarm prevailed, were rescued from the upper windows amid great excitement. The hotel was, however, saved. A number of sheep and oxen in some adjoining stables were burned to death. The flames were not extinguished until past ten o'clock, by which time the whole building was completely razed to the ground. The amount of damage to the buildings is estimated at £10,000, of which £2,000 was insured. The pantomime cost about £2,000 to produce, and the number of persons employed at the theatre was about 160, and these included a number of those who had been thrown out of work by the burning of the Grand Theatre at Islington, who had been engaged by Mr. Elliott, the proprietor of the Theatre Royal. The theatre was recently enlarged and fitted up with automatic sprinklers, which were found afterwards to have been turned off. Incendiarism is suspected. The supposition is strengthened by the discovery that the office had been forced with a pickaxe and chisel, evidently with the object of getting at the safe. It is singular that the valuable property belonging to the theatre, which for seventeen years nightly he has carried home, was on Tuesday night left at the theatre for the first time, and has been destroyed.

A meeting of the actors and actresses connected with the Theatre Royal, Bolton, was held on Thursday in that town to consider what should be done to assist the more distressed of their number who are deprived of income and by the destruction of their effects prevented for the time of taking any fresh engagement. Mr. Elliott, proprietor of the theatre, presided, and said that the immediate wants of all the artists would be seen to by himself, and the wages of the ballet girls, for whom he had been unable to obtain situations, would be paid. He suggested that the burnt-out artists should form a small pantomime company to work the neighbouring towns. He would find the necessary capital. He also offered them the free use of his Darven Theatre for a fortnight. He had no doubt that the fire was the work of an incendiary, and he had decided to offer a reward of £100 for the apprehension of the offender. The meeting decided to accept Mr. Elliott's suggestions, and passed a vote of thanks to him for his generosity.

POSTMEN'S WORK.

Mr. Freeman Gell held an inquest at the Town Hall, Brighton, on the body of Shuttwell Rogers, 39, a postman, who dropped down dead the previous day.—Medical evidence showed that the cause of death was from failure of the heart's action, due to pleurisy. A brother of Rogers asked the Post Office authorities if a representative was present, what time the deceased had for refreshment on Christmas Day. Mr. Wood, clerk at the post office, who had charge of the outdoor duties, explained the various hours of a postman, and also the hours at Christmas time. Rogers had been a postman since the year 1873, and during the whole of that period had never complained. Every body connected with the post office was supposed to be on duty all day and all night on Christmas Eve, and also on Christmas Day until the work was done.—The jury returned a verdict in accordance with medical testimony.

The horses attached to a dray belonging to Mr. Croushan, a Manchester brewer, ran away, and the wheels of the dray passed over the legs of a three-year-old child, named Gibson, with the result that the limb had to be amputated. The child's father has obtained £200 as compensation.—Advt.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

DAMAGING A WINDOW.—James Bone, 63 years of age, described in the calendar as a shoemaker, pleaded guilty to maliciously damaging a pane of glass, value £8, the property of James Whitehead.—It appeared that the prosecutor keeps the Weavers' Arms, Spelman-street, and on Boxing Day the prisoner went into the house and created a very great disturbance, during which he drew out a long knife and attempted to stab some one. He afterwards took out of his pocket a long file, with which he broke a large pane of glass. He was then given into custody, and in his defence declared that he had been ill-used and robbed by the persons there. He was, however, very sorry for what he had done.—The assistant judge sentenced him to five months' imprisonment with hard labour.

ROBBERIES FROM THE PERSON.—John Thomas, 21, case-maker, pleaded guilty to stealing a watch and chain, value £7, from the person of John Cornelius Fryer, an auctioneer, of Chiswell-street.—It appeared that on the afternoon of December 19th the prisoner was walking along Chiswell-street, when the prisoner suddenly stepped in front of him and snatched his watch and chain from his pocket. He then ran away, but was caught by a City police officer.—After several previous convictions had been proved against the prisoner, he was sentenced to twenty months' imprisonment, with hard labour, and two years' police supervision.—James Connor, 19, dealer; Frank Francis, 18, labourer; and Edward Dobson, 30, labourer, were indicted for stealing a purse and the sum of 10s. from Edith Saunders, a nurse, prosecuted by Mr. Purcell defended Connor; Francis pleaded guilty; and Mr. Burnie defended Dobson.—The jury found Connor and Dobson guilty.—After previous convictions had been proved against them, the prisoners were sentenced, Connor to five years' penal servitude, Francis to twelve months' hard labour, and Dobson to seven years' penal servitude.

ROBBERY PUBLICANS.—John Thomas, 62, template worker, and Elizabeth Wotton, 31, charwoman, pleaded guilty, and Alfred Watson, 31, simple worker, pleaded not guilty, to an indictment charging them with having stolen several pewter pots, the property of Henry Boyce, of the Shakspeare Head public-house, Clerkenwell, and of Frederick Guyer, of the Bull and Ram, Old-street. Mr. Bealey prosecuted.—In the case of Thomas and Wotton, both prisoners were arrested when leaving Mr. Boyce's house with the pewter pots in their hands.—Detective Sewell, G Division, on the visiting the lodgings occupied by Thomas and the woman, found several pewter pots there, and produced a pair of 20s. had been stolen from publicans carrying on business in Clerkenwell, and since the arrest of the prisoners no such thefts had been committed.—Mr. Bealey stated that it had been ascertained that Watson was a hard-working and respectable man, and he therefore did not propose to offer any evidence against him.—The jury, therefore, returned a verdict of not guilty.—Thomas was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment, with hard labour, and Wotton, against whom there was a previous conviction, to twelve months.

DARING PURSE ROBBERY.—John Bagley, 29, labourer, was indicted for stealing a purse near the Swiss Cottage on the 21st of December. Mr. Abram prosecuted.—Mrs. Humphrey, residing in the Queen's-road, Kentish Town, stated that about half past one on the 21st of December she was in Eton Avenue, near the Swiss Cottage, when she heard footsteps behind her, and immediately felt her hand, in which she was carrying her purse, pulled down. She turned round and saw the prisoner, of whom she caught a good view. He struggled with her, and pulled her down, and she ran away, and another man at the moment coming up and preventing her following the prisoner. She followed the two men, however, until they got to near Primrose Hill, when she lost sight of them.—The prisoner was convicted.—He was then put on his trial for attempting to steal a bag and other articles from the person of Gertrude Pickford, a domestic servant, on the afternoon of the same day, in the Priory-road, Kilburn. The circumstances of the case were almost precisely the same as in the former one, but the prisoner, in consequence of some men driving past dropped his hat in the road and ran away. When arrested in a field in Kilburn he was found without a hat, and the one which was picked up in the road fitted him, and was sworn to by the prosecutrix as the one he was wearing at the time of the attempted robbery.—The jury, without any hesitation, also returned a verdict of guilty on this indictment.—The assistant judge passed a sentence of nine months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

A LUCKY PRISONER.—William Jones, 29, a respectable-looking young man, who had been convicted in November last of obtaining by false pretences from James William Sabon two parrots, Brown two canaries and other goods, value 50s., was brought up to receive judgment. Sentence had been postponed in order that Mr. Wheatley, the secretary of the St. Giles's Christian Mission, might make arrangements for sending him abroad.—The assistant judge said he now learned from Mr. Wheatley, who was present, that arrangements had been made, and on the prisoner entering into his recognisances to be of good behaviour the court would allow him to go. The prisoner then left the court with Mr. Wheatley.

A THOUGHTFUL SERVANT.—Sydney Scott, 30, pleaded guilty to stealing two rings and other articles, value £140, the goods of Ada Morle. He was further charged with receiving the same, well knowing them to have been stolen.—The prisoner pleaded guilty, and admitted that he had squandered the money, the proceeds of the robbery. The facts of the case were fully given last week.—The prosecutrix keeps an hotel in Jermyn-street, and when the matter was brought before the magistrate at Marlborough-street, Detective Crackett, of the G Division, stated that the prisoner, who had been in the custody of the New Scotland police, informed him that by the request of a servant, named Margaret Jacques, he and she lived together in June last. The girl then told him (prisoner) that she had taken her mistress's cash-box, and he changed the bank-notes and sold the other property that the box contained. At the time he took the room for the girl he had no idea she had committed the theft.—The woman Jacques, who is now undergoing a term of imprisonment for the robbery, then repeated her evidence, and said the prisoner, after inducing her to live with him for two days, left her helpless and destitute, and she wandered about the streets for two days without food. He took everything out of the box but a few old trumpery pieces.—The assistant judge sentenced the prisoner to be kept in penal servitude for five years.

"RINGING THE CHANGES."—William Dunn, 49, bookseller, was indicted for having, by means of a trick known as "ringing the changes," obtained from Miss Edith Richardson, of Simpson's Hotel, in the Strand, the sum of 10s., under circumstances already detailed.—The assistant judge, prisoner having been found guilty, sentenced him to twelve months' imprisonment, after a former conviction had been proved for having attempted to obtain a large sum of money by the "confidence trick."

CONVICTION OF AN OLD SHOPLIFTER.—Mary Anderson, an old woman 62 years of age, pleaded guilty to stealing an umbrella and other articles, value £5 1s. 9d., the goods of Messrs. Shoobred and Co. There were several other counts in the indictment charging her with similar offences, to all of which she pleaded guilty.—Mr. F. C. Fishbourne appeared for the prosecution, and drew attention to the recommendation of the grand jury in favour of Detective Godley, who had succeeded in arresting the prisoner and found upon her very artfully-contrived pockets, in which she had concealed the property she had purloined.—The assistant judge sentenced the prisoner to nine months' hard labour, and said he thought that the detective, Godley, was very well deserving of the commendation referred to, and wished his observations to be recorded.

A DERBY LOVE TRAGEDY.

The Coroner for Derby on Tuesday held an inquest at the Town Hall on the body of Emma Gilbert, who died under painful circumstances.—The deceased, who was 21 years old, and single, lodged at 6, Depot-street. She had been in a low and desponding condition for about a month, and had threatened to destroy herself. On December 31st she remained in bed until five o'clock in the evening, when she got up and went out. On her return she threw herself on a sofa, and said to Mrs. Hawksworth, with whom she lodged, "Oh, mother, I can't do it." Mrs. Hawksworth inquired "Do what?" She replied, "I have been in the water. I cannot sleep without him." Her boots and stockings were wet. On Monday morning she went out, and returned about noon apparently in better spirits. Directly afterwards, she shouted, "Oh mother, give me something to make me sick, or else I shall die." She then ran downstairs and threw herself into a chair. Her tongue was sent protruding from her mouth. Dr. Castor was sent for, but the young woman was unconscious and remained so until her death. Deceased had told her landlady that her despondency was about a man to whom she was attached, and that she had expected to be married this month. Two bottles of laudanum and one containing carbolic acid were found in her satchel. Dr. Castor stated that death was caused by deceased taking carbolic acid.—The jury came to the conclusion that deceased had committed suicide whilst suffering from temporary insanity.

A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN'S STORY.

Thomas Bullock, 39, described as a general dealer, of no home, was charged at the Stratford Petty Sessions with neglecting to report himself at the Ilford Police Station on October 21st last, in accordance with the terms of the Crimes Prevention Act. The prisoner was convicted at the Middlesex Sessions for breaking and entering, and sentenced to six years' penal servitude and three years' police supervision. He was released on ticket-of-leave on November 21st, 1884, and in September, 1887, he removed from Maidstone to Ilford. Since September 21st last he had failed to report himself to the police.—Prisoner said that when he came home from the last sentence he joined the society, and got a donkey and barrow. He moved down there to get away from his bad associates, and he "fell in" with a girl and lived with her. She, however, took to drinking, and pawned the things, and he then left her. The prisoner, continuing, said, "I've no home to go to, and I can't report myself as usual. Give me a chance; if I get three months I should perhaps, when I come out, be tempted, and go back for ten years. I've pulled my barrow about the streets like a horse, and the police have seen me."—Captain Kindersley: "If that is the case there is not the least reason why you didn't report yourself. You are liable to a year's imprisonment, and, as it is, you must go to prison for a month, with hard labour.—Prisoner then turned around in the dock, waved his hand, and gaily exclaimed to a woman in the court, "A month! Good day, old gal!"

PLAYING WITH A DYNAMITE CARTRIDGE.

A peculiar affair has just occurred at Maryport. Three months ago a woman named Corindale, living in the town named, picked up in the street, whilst on a visit to some friends, a dynamite cartridge. Not knowing its nature, she took it home, and allowed her little boy to play with it. The boy took it to school with him every day for a fortnight, and he and his schoolfellows, little knowing the danger they ran, played with it fearlessly. On one occasion the boy sat very near to the fire, and pointing to his pocket where the cartridge was, said, "Feel how warm it is." The mother had by this time almost forgotten the cartridge, but her son and another boy quarrelled about it and fought for its possession. The mother thereupon took it from them and placed it upon the mantelpiece. Shortly afterwards she accidentally knocked it into the fire. A loud explosion ensued and the poor woman was dreadfully wounded about the head and face, while an infant she had in her arms at the time escaped unhurt.

DISCARD AT A WEDDING PARTY.

At Aston Police Court, Birmingham, William Gardner, a greengrocer, was committed for trial on the charge of having wounded a man named Lyons, with intent to do grievous bodily harm, at a wedding party at Gardner's house, one of the guests being Lyons. At night a quarrel arose in consequence of Lyons throwing a pillow at a man who was singing. Lyons then ran out, and was pursued by Gardner with a gun, which he fired, the shots entering the prosecutor's face and side. He has been in hospital a month, and has lost the sight of one eye.

MARRIED IN HASTE AND THE SEQUEL.

A man, said to be well known and carrying on business in the district over which the Lambeth Police Court has control, appeared before the sitting magistrate, Mr. Chance, and stated that some weeks before, on his way home, he met a young woman on or near Vauxhall Bridge. He went into conversation, and became enamoured of her. They repaired to a certain place, and after that he kept up the acquaintance and then he took her home. He was so pleased with her that he proposed marriage, which she at once agreed to, and finally they were made man and wife. She went on well for some little time, he providing her with good clothing, &c. Last week, upon returning home, he found his spouse had disappeared, and then he ascertained she had taken with her some £70 in gold, as well as jewellery and clothing.—The magistrate said he was afraid he could not help the applicant in the matter, as the woman was his wife.—The police authorities have since had the matter in hand, but have been unable to trace the runaway wife or the property.

The Italian Government is reported to be negotiating with American steel-makers for a supply of armour-plates for war vessels.

A telegram from Toronto, recently announces that the Dominion Parliament, which was summoned to meet on January 31st, has been prorogued until the end of February.

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MAPLE AND CO.—BORDERED CARPETS.

MAPLE AND CO.—BORDERED CENTRAL CARPETS, in Tapestry, Brussels, 12ft. by 9ft., 32s. List of other sizes free on application to MAPLE & CO., Carpet Factors, Tottenham Court-road, London.

MAPLE AND CO.—BORDERED CENTRAL CARPETS, extra heavy for hall, street-like wear, 12ft. by 9ft., 32s.—List of other sizes free on application to MAPLE & CO., Importers of Foreign Carpets, London and Smyrna.

MAPLE AND CO.—BORDERED CENTRAL CARPETS, very best, five-frame Brussels, for reception rooms, 12ft. by 9ft., 32s.—List of other sizes free on application to MAPLE & CO., Importers of Foreign Rugs, Tottenham Court-road, London.

MAPLE AND CO.—BORDERED CENTRAL CARPETS, Wilton pile, very beautiful designs and shaggy effects, 12ft. by 9ft., 32s.—List of other sizes free on application to MAPLE & CO., London and Tottenham Court-road.

MAPLE AND CO.—BORDERED CENTRAL CARPETS, Woodstock Carpets, seamless and fringed, the most successful ever introduced, on application to MAPLE & CO., the Largest Furnishing Establishment in the World, Tottenham Court-road, London.

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MAPLE AND CO.—CARPETS.

MAPLE AND CO.—CARPETS.—Thousands of Yarns of Brussels and other Carpets suitable for studies, nurseries, and other rooms, where durability at a low price is an object. PATENT FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT, the largest in the world, and the only one in the world of first-class furniture really for immediate delivery. Novelties every day from all parts of the globe. No family can afford to furnish before this time. The latest styles of carpets, being one of the sights in London. To export merchants an unusual advantage is offered. Having large stocks of goods, and being on the premises by experienced packers.—MAPLE & CO., Tottenham Court-road, 2nd fl., Boulevard de Strasbourg, Paris.

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From Punch.)
"Words, words, words," Lord Grimthorpe (to Beckett of Yorkshire, notes, Wiltshire) announces that he is prepared to support a homoeopathy. This being the case, it seems a pity that his lordship does not apply the principles to his own correspondence. He gives us plenty of letters before proof. We should prefer proof before letters.

What Kilrain wished Smith on January 1st, 1888—A "Happy New Year."
Many of the foreign journalists should be dear to the heart of General Salvatorini Booth, as they contribute to keep up "The War Cry."

(From Punch Folks.)

THE NEXT GREAT PRIZE FIGHT.—(An Anticipated Report.)—32nd Round: Both men came up smiling, as well they might do. Brown rubbed his opponent's hair over his eyes, and then the two combatants retired to their several corners. 33rd Round: Slaywet got in his left with terrific force, and succeeded in brushing a fly off Brown's cheek. The excitement of the backers was tremendous. 34th Round: Brown made all the fighting during this round, Slaywet acting entirely on the defensive. Brown, nevertheless, broke through the American's guard, and filleted him lightly on the nose with his middle finger. 35th and Last Round: The fight concluded, a draw being declared, and the heroes of this desperate encounter went home together to a champagne supper. Neither man was marked in the slightest degree. It is announced that Brown and Slaywet will commence a stirring tour round the provinces without delay.

The Only Prize Ring Recognised by Respectable People.—The wedding ring.

Quite a Match for Himself.—Lucifer.
Awful Result of Christmas Dinner upon the Political Situation.—The total dismemberment of Turkey and Greece.

(From Fun.)

A native of India, who paid a jubilee visit to this country, has informed his fellow-countrymen that an English woman is always pleasing and amiable. It is, perhaps, needless to say that he didn't get very much married while over here.

Russia states that she intends "to defend her soil and her honour." Um—both are rather barren, and hardly worth consideration.

"Understand me distinctly, I will not put up with it, Angelina; I wish you to become aware that I am a plain man," growled Edwin. "What an unnecessary remark to make, Edwin," warbled Angelina sweetly. Then Edwin, in a quivering more horribly than usual, and, putting on his hat with a doleful air, sought his club.

"Do you like skate?" said the cook to her pet constable, as the fish was frizzling on the fire. "Skate? skate?" murmured the constable, who was well on the wassail. "Skate? No, I tumbled into the turpentine—I mean Serpentine—last year (hie), and I came out 'dripping.' Then the cook drove him out of her domain with a steaming ladle, and her cousin in the Guards took his place at the table.

(From Judy.)

What was the first article of haberdashery introduced into Eden?—A rib-un.

Danvers.—Young Whistamaine says he'll be hung if he won't kiss Miss Thimbley under the mistletoe, because that is a "capital" offence.

SOME NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.—For Mr. Gladstone (sunkling): A medical certificate. "Ordered abroad for change and rest." For Mr. Parnell (ditto): A ditto. "Ordered to keep at home for rest and change." For the Chief Secretary of Ireland: A cat-o-nine tails, with the inscription "More power to your elbow." For Mr. Labouchere: A little bit of Truth. For Mrs. Josephine Butler: A looking-glass. "To see herself as others see her." For Mr. Cunningham-Graham, M.P.: Two months' hard. For Mr. Wilfrid Blunt (would be): M.P. Ditto. For Augustus Harris, Esq.: The thanks of 10,000 little ones. For Lord Salisbury and Hartington: Long life, health, and strength, and a happy new year.

(From Moonshine.)

THE POLITICAL OLD JACK-IN-A-BOX.

From Hawarden to Chester, from Chester to Crewe.

The up fast express of the North-Western flew, And where'er it stopped, with a shriek and a squeak,

The old Jack-in-box popped his head out to speak!

At Chester, his tongue just beginning to wag, The guard cut him short by applying the gas.

Effectively speeding the train on its way, By the summary sound of the whistle, they say!

"I advise you," said Jack to the rabble, his friends,

But the jerk of the carriage his rhetoric ends, And the poor, gaping Rade of that city are left,

Alike of Jack's presence and counsel bereft!

At Crewe and at Rugby, his head popping out, He essayed, but in vain, for a moment to spout,

But the guards and the absence of donkeys combined

To shut up old Jack and to worry his mind!

In London, alas! where the infidels throng, His reception was mixed, and, I think, [very] wrong

Was the conduct of those who would hoot and not cheer

When they saw the old shirt-collared puppet appear!

But at Dover arrived, when from Walmer he came,

A Walmer reception they gave him!—oh, shame!—

For they wickedly ventured—believe it who can!—

Cold snowballs to shay at this Silly Old Man!

Mr. Gladstone has gone "to take much needed rest in a warmer climate." It was first said that he was going to Venice; we are now told that he will go to Florence. Suppose we put it that he is really going to Rome, and so split the difference?

Before Mr. Gladstone left Hawarden notice was given to all good Separatists to gather at the stations and cheer him. The programme was successfully carried out along the rest of the route, but at Dover, we grieve to see, snowballs got mixed with the cheering. However, the Grand Old Man had only himself to blame; nobody else, past or present, ever insisted on so much attention, and doubtless the disgruntled Radicals, who threw the snowballs, were cross at having been kept waiting.

The Pope is getting a heap of presents on the strength of his jubilee—a good word which now-a-days runs the risk of being very much misunderstood. It is not enough to have a jubilee for fifty years of uninterrupted service or benevolent rule; there must be a jubilee because it is fifty years since the first lollipop was sucked, the first tooth was stopped, the first breeches worn. At the present rate of going on, every public character in Europe over 60 may, if he pleases, have a separate jubilee 365 times in the twelve months. The fact is that the Pope has not had a real jubilee, and cannot for the next forty years; but he has appeared very successfully to his friends, and—taken his first benefit.

DRAMATIC PARTNERSHIP.—"Well, Tommy, what are you going to be when you grow up?" "I'm going to write plays, uncle."

"Just so, uncle, that's exactly what's wanted. I'm going to be a joint author."

(From Miss Slop.)

"Look here, Mrs. Soapsuds," said Bachelor Jones, "I shall have to find another laundress if you don't do my things better."

"And what might it be that's wrong, sir?" inquired Mrs. Soapsuds.

"Why, my shirt, to be sure," said Bachelor Jones.

"Ah! that's not my fault, sir," replied Mrs. Soapsuds; "it's the bad material they're made of; all the white's washed out of 'em, sir, that's what it is."

Scene: At a public meeting. Eloquent speaker, a member of the bar.—First Hearer: It's a foine

speaker he is, bedad, and isn't it the grand words that he uses, too!—Second Hearer: Shure and you're right; but, begorra, he ought to be able to bring 'em out, for O'Ve heard that he's eaten all his terms.

"What was the reign of terror?" asked a schoolmaster. "When it rained for forty days and nights, sir," replied his pupil.

Junior Partner (to youthful clerk): How do you manage to pass your time all day at the office, Mr. Loofer? Mr. Loofer: Why, sir, I—I—I have my books to make up, and—and—and— Junior Partner: Yes, I know you have, but you don't do it.—(Loofer thinks a nod is as good as a wink, and turns over a new leaf.)

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From St. Stephen's Review.)

In connection with the forthcoming silver wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the following general and brief summary of what occurred in connection with the silver wedding of the King and Queen of the Belgians may prove at least suggestive. The event was celebrated by a general holiday, and Brussels was gayly decorated. A golden crown with brilliant and a veil of Belgian lace, were presented to the Queen by a deputation of Belgian women. Special embassies to congratulate their Majesties were sent from all the Courts of Europe. One of the features of the coming celebration is the enthusiasm already being largely displayed by the women of England, who intend to surpass their Belgian sisters in the magnificence of their gift to the prince.

It is not generally known to what extent the Parisiennes indulge in cigarette smoking. A French journalist has just published the results of an investigation he has made. He declares that there are three manufactories in Paris alone where nothing but ladies' cigarettes are made, and they all do a tremendous trade. The cigarettes are considerably more injurious than those smoked by men, inasmuch as a certain quantity of opium is mixed with the tobacco. Then, again, they are scented to a really frightful extent. The finest Turkish tobacco is literally steeped in essence of roses, carnations, or heliotrope. One thing, however, the ladies are finding out, and that is that smoking cigarettes prepared in this way blackens the teeth very rapidly, making it very difficult to restore them to their original whiteness. This alone will perhaps be effective in abating the injurious habit.

Yet some more important items in the list of the Pope's jubilee presents. Fifty thousand bottles of champagne were sent to all parts of the world, by which, by the way, is a liquor the Pope never touches; and 12,000 pairs of slippers; also a quantity of babylinen, cradles, &c. These are doubtless sent in answer to the Pope's appeal that the presents should be such as could be distributed amongst the necessitous poor.

(From Life.)

The Law and Liberty League is in a bad way. It is only about six weeks old, and, judging from appearances, has not much longer to live. Fools and fanatics have together raised £500 to keep it going; but of this sum £300 has been spent in watching constables, bailing out disorderly people, and getting up a public funeral. Besides the money actually spent, liabilities amounting to nearly £1,000 have been incurred, so that if the affair was wound up to-morrow there would be a deficit of nearly £800. The public are informed that the liabilities may be reduced one-half, but for this piece of ledgerdom is to be accomplished no one can tell. The public, of course, will again be appealed to; but the public is too wide awake to throw its money into such a gutter. The people who started the league are the people who should keep it going, and if they cannot, let them wind up the business, after paying their debts. They have had their fling; they have got some notoriety, and they should not grudge paying for it. I would advise the managers of the league to forego their project of raising a monument to Linnell, who has had quite enough insults offered to his memory already.

I am very glad to see that a movement has been set on foot by several naval officers to erect a memorial to Lieutenant-commander Bryan Adamson, the unfortunate young officer of H.M. gunboat Wasp, which was lost last September in a typhoon while making passage from Singapore to Hong Kong. The memorial is to take the form of a drinking fountain, and will be erected in the little village of Cultercoats, near Lymington, in which latter place Commander Adamson was born and bred. So much has been written on the loss of the ill-fated gunboat that further comment here seems unnecessary. Suffice it to say that any hope which at one time existed in naval circles for the Wasp's safety was given up weeks ago, and it seems now more than likely that she shall never hear the true story of the sad disaster till the sea gives up its dead.

The wedding of Miss Agnes Tait, youngest daughter but one of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, with the Rev. John Henry Ellison, vicar of St. Gabriel's Church, Warwick-square, is fixed to take place on Wednesday afternoon, the 11th of January. The ceremony, which is to be as quiet as possible, will be performed in the private chapel of Lambeth Palace, by Dr. Benson, the Dean of Windsor, brother-in-law of the bride, and Canon Ellison, the bridegroom's father. Mr. Ellison, although he was only a little over 30 years of age, was appointed vicar, in October, 1885, of St. Gabriel's, which contains a population of some 10,000, and is, therefore, an immense responsibility on the shoulders of so young a man. He is generally beloved by the parish, the rich as well as the poor always finding him a kind and sympathetic friend in time of trial or trouble.

(From the World.)

The Queen intends to stay at Osborne as long as possible, for she will miss her usual spring residence there in consequence of her trip to the continent. The Court, therefore, will not return to Windsor till about February 21st. The Empress Eugénie, Princess Frederica of Hanover, and Princess Christian are to be guests at Osborne in the course of the next few weeks.

Prince Albert Victor is to be the guest of Mr. Arthur Wilson at Tranby Croft the week after next, and his Royal highness will probably attend the Holdeness Hunt ball, which takes place at Beverley on the 18th. The prince has promised to preside at a meeting in aid of the National Association for the Employment of Reservists and Discharged Soldiers, which is to be held at Hull on the afternoon of the 15th.

The white collie-dog which the Queen has just added to her collection of pets was the gift of Miss Charles, of Wellesbourne, Warwickshire. It is a beautiful and intelligent creature, and is named Snowball.

Much sympathy is felt for Lord Buckinghamshire in the painful position in which he is placed by the inordinate charges with which his grandfather has loaded the family estate. It may be hoped, however, that he will not find it necessary to sell Great Hampden, the seat of John Hampden, which has belonged to the ancient family of Hampden for many centuries; for it will be remembered that the patriot was certified as "of ancient extraction as any nobleman or gentleman in the shire of Buckingham." Hampden is a very interesting old manor house, and it is famous for its beautiful beech woods.

(From Truth.)

I hear that the marriage of Prince Henry of Prussia and Princess Irene of Hesse will probably take place at San Remo during the second week in April, as the Queen intends to be present at the ceremony, and it would not be possible for her Majesty to attend if it were celebrated at Berlin, as was originally arranged. The Queen intends to present Princess Irene with her trousseau.

A member of the Duke of Norfolk's mission took his wife to Rome, but was at once obliged to relegate her to another hotel, as the Vatican etiquette, which is very strict, requires that no woman shall be included in, or connected with,

any mission to the Pope. The last mission despatched from the Court of St. James's to the Vatican was in the reign of James II. The selection of the Duke of Norfolk on this occasion was a very happy one, as he is *persona grata* to the Vatican, and the mission appears to have been in all respects a great success.

Lord Salisbury's attention was called the other day to the cruel practice of tramping and boggaring taking young children—often hired for the purpose—about the country with them on their rounds, and thus inflicting extreme misery from cold and privation on the unfortunate waifs. I am glad to see that, although there appears to be no legal remedy for this sort of barbarity in England, they manage these things better in Scotland, for at Glasgow two street singers, named Robertson and Anderson, were sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour for keeping their children out in the cold weather so as to excite compassion.

A feast of reconciliation took place three weeks ago at a village in Sardinia, when the following provisions were consumed by 500 persons:—400lb. of macaroni, ten cows, fourteen fat hogs, sixty sucking pigs, 600lb. of bread, 1,100lb. of fruit, 1,750 pints of wine, and vegetables in proportion. This Homeric feast was the conclusion of a feud between three families in the village, which had lasted nearly half a century, and in the course of which there have been several tragical vendettas.

What is described as an "extraordinary discovery" was made last week at the Youghal Bonded Stores. It seems that among the goods deposited there were two huge casks of whisky, each containing fifty gallons, which had been in bond for more than eight years. The spirit was justifiably supposed to have got into prime order, so the casks were examined, whereupon it appeared that they were both nearly empty. The officials, with truly infantile ingenuousness, attributed the disappearance of ninety-eight gallons of this fine liquor to rats! The creatures are supposed to have eaten a hole in the cask, and from time to time to have consumed the contents. How Charles Lever would have laughed at this delightful explanation!

There was a small riot in Bolton last week because a marriage, which had been anticipated with much interest, did not come off. The bridegroom, a well-known tradesman, who is an ardent advocate of temperance principles, went to the bride's house before proceeding to the church, and, placing a pledge-card before her, insisted on her at once signing it. She refused, whereupon he and his friends proceeded to the church. The clergyman and a number of friends were waiting at the church, but the parties did not appear, and when the cause transpired a number of women assembled outside the bridegroom's house and pelted him with rotten eggs and other pleasant missiles, and so much resentment was manifested that he has found it expedient to leave home for a time.

A "CORPSE" DANCING A HORNPipe.

As two police officials were making their rounds in the neighbourhood of Joinville-le-Pont, says a Paris correspondent, they found the body of a man lying on the banks of the Marne. They determined on removing it at once to the Morgue, and hired a light cart for the purpose. As they were jogging along they happened to turn round, and to their horror saw the corpse, as they believed it to be, dancing a hornpipe in the middle of the road. Although much frightened, they pulled up and hailed the man who ran up and soon showed them an account of his adventure over a bottle of wine in a cabaret hard by. He had been rendered insensible by the cold, and had no inkling of what was going on until he recovered his senses in the cart. His first thought was to restore his circulation, so he slipped off the vehicle and began stamping about on the ground to warm his feet. The horse's nose was turned round, and the resuscitated corpse was conducted with every attention back to its place of abode.

LIVELY PAUPERS.

An amusing discussion took place on Wednesday at a meeting of the Warrington board of guardians. A member complained of the idleness of the beer allowed to the workhouse inmates on Christmas Day, and stated that six women scaled one got locked up, the others returned late at night, got a ladder, and mounting the wall with great difficulty, owing to their condition, re-entered the house. The male inmates were very boisterous, "larking" and playing "catch the monkey."

THE "PEOPLE'S" WORK.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE." Sir.—An item from "The Politician" in "Our Omnibus" on the increasing popularity of the People, prompts me to add my testimony. As a quondam extreme Radical, and a now strong Radical Unionist, I can give my independent testimony to the value of your paper. Were I a Conservative or Unionist M.P. I should rely upon the People as my ablest supporter, and were I a working man, I should rely upon the People as my best friend. I would earnestly wish to persuade every elector to become a reader of it. It should now never be forgotten that the majority of the electorate are of the artisan class, and the influence of the London daily press is practically nil with them. On the contrary, there are three London Sunday weeklies of large circulation, preaching to them false and even treasonable doctrines. Sunday is the day for reading with working men and working women, and if you can get them to read the People instead of the "Times," "Standard," or "Pall Mall," you will have done a great service to the nation.

The author of the English language, a national benefit will ensue. In my humble capacity I have aided in your circulation, and I wish every Conservative would feel as I do as to your influence on the electorate. As a Radical and a supporter of the original Midlothian programme, I welcome you as an ally. The times of old Toryism are gone for ever, and your paper now represents the old Radical cry of peace, retrenchment, and reform. As a taxpayer, I support the Government that has reduced taxation; as a tradesman, I must admit that your paper has revived, and is holding any sort of a meeting on the Boston public common. In fact, a Protestant minister is now in prison for preaching on a Sunday without this license, because he would not apply to a Roman Catholic mayor for permission to preach the Gospel. Of course, I don't defend him for breaking the law, as any law, good, bad, or indifferent, should be obeyed by all peace-loving citizens, but it is the fact of such a city where the law is in force that calls for our admiration. Argue the people of this nationality are loudly calling upon our legislators to take more stringent steps to prohibit the admission of Chinese into the country, while for good, law-abiding citizens I should say the Chinese are far ahead of the Irish, as, while the latter in this country, as in yours, largely help to fill up the gaps and workhouses, it would be a very rare circumstance to find one Chinese in such institutions. So it would seem that the Irish are a more dangerous race than the Chinese, and I adopt a policy of grabbing all we can, and running a whole business exclusively to our own interests, and devil take the other fellows."

AN OLD BIRMINGHAM ELECTOR.

[The above gratifying testimonial comes to us quite unolicited from an entire stranger. We heartily thank our correspondent for the sympathetic appreciation of our resolve to support measures, not men. His letter is the pleasantest New Year's gift that we have received.—Ed.]

A man aged about 50 entered the tap-room of a small public-house at Farnham, Surrey, on Wednesday afternoon, and, without saying a word to those present, placed a six-chambered revolver to his temple and blew his brains out. The man, who is a stranger to the place, had nothing about his person by which he could be identified.

TO LADIES.—3/6 PAIRS OF GLOVES GIVEN AWAY. See Mrs. LEACH'S FAMILY DRESSMAKER, price 2d. containing Practical Lessons in Dressmaking, with many illustrations and useful information. Also Mrs. LEACH'S CHILDREN'S DRESSMAKER, price 1d., which is a Paper Pattern in the form of a book, and may be had of all news-vendors, or by post five stamps.—Mrs. LEACH, 5, Johnson's-court, Fleet-street, London.—(Advt.)

Mrs. LEACH'S SERIES OF USEFUL BOOKS.—A Lady writes: "For practical utility they are unequalled." Price 2d. each, at all News-vendors.

1. Fancy Sewing, and What to Make for Them. 2. Writing: How to Write, How to Copy, and How to Trim. 3. Dolls: How to Dress Them, Lessons in Dressing Them. 4. Boys' and Men's Clothing: How to Make. 5. Sewing: How to Sew, and How to Sew. 6. Crochet Work: Complete Guide. 7. Underclothing for All Ages: How to Make and Trim.

Each book is complete, many of them contain explicit directions, and are all new. No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

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THE POLITICIAN.

WILLIAM OF CLOUDESLEE.

On Wednesday, Marley, favourite in eleven runners for the 'Qualifying Hunters' Steeplechase, landed as favourite in such events generally, due to Gunpowder, from the same stable, and also to the half-brother, The Mare, took a hunter's hurdle race. Dan Dancer, who entered in for the January Hurdle Race, is very smart at the game, and must always be backed when the money is down. This son of The Mar is very likely to be a contender for the 'Widley Chibby's' gallop on Monday had done her good. She ran far better in the Selling Hurdle Race

The committee and executive of the A. B. Benefactor Society are to be congratulated for the eighth annual balance-sheet and statement of accounts for the year ending 26th April which has just been issued, showing as that the society is in a very satisfactory position. During the year relief was afforded twenty-four cases by grants varying from £25 to £25, the total amounting to £290 10s.; and in Antioch this expenditure, a balance of £205 19s. 5d. remained to meet forthcoming needs. It is wise to provide for the rainy day, members of singing clubs will do well to

088

Within the last few days two golden eagles have been shot in the south of England, one at Exeter and one near Tiverton. I presume they have been driven from more northerly latitudes by the cold. These birds never get a chance to breed in England; they are at once shot. One man has a great pity, yet who could resist the temptation to shoot them.

THE ACTOR.

[illegible]

I need say little about poor old Mr. Chip, whose memory will be dear to every player who saw him act in the country after his "farewell" at the Lyceum in 1879, and sadly trail. Had he retired in time, he would have spared his melancholy last night, as we all know, he was unsuited to the old men of comedy.

GENERAL CHATTER.

An extraordinary company on the Liability principle, has just been formed Transvaal by a number of intelligent Boers held post mortem examinations on any natives who were employed at the mine, and the prompt payment of an enormous fine should be derived. From the defects in the case of a native who lately died suspicious circumstances near Dutchman's autopsy of the body brought to light six weight of diamonds in the recesses of the stomach. The unfortunate miner must have swallowed a diamond of considerable size, and a few for his own benefit.

THE LOUNGER.

In connection with the disaster to those who assert that the old Philharmonic the first home of opera-bouffe are mistaken about Mr. Harris's adaptation of "The Duchess" at Covent Garden, in which Mathews (whose father was a Scotch baronet) and Miss Morgan took part? Miss Morgan's first appearance at the Strand when quite a girl, and the talent she led to a long engagement in Australia.

Of the present New South Wales Premier Parkes was an ivory-turner, a land was a carpenter, Mr. Garrett a c Mr. Wise a barrister, M. Inglis a b Roberts a publican, and Mr. Clarke agent.

IMPORTANT DECISION UNDER THE FISHERIES ACT.

On Saturday Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, the coroner for the Eastern Division of Middlesex, received information of the death of Ann Cate Hoobie, aged 44, the wife of a publican, living at 59, Richard-street, Commercial-road, E. It transpired that Mrs. Hoobie had been depressed for some time, had a quantity of liniment, which had been given her for outward application only. On reaching the hospital every effort was made to resuscitate the unfortunate woman's life, but without death ensuing on the following day.

CASE.

CLERKS AND SHORTHAND.

SUPPOSED MURDER OF A HUSBAND

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER.

SUICIDE OF A BOOKMAKER.

SUICIDE OF A FARMER.

CONVICTION OF A PRIZE FIGHTER

A Poetical Lover.

ANOTHER TRAFALGAR-SQUARE

Her Majesty's jubilee presents will, it is
be exhibited at the Glasgow International
Exhibition.

s officially announced that there is no

ALLEGED SWINDLING AT BISHOP

A BAD RECORD.

BOGUS INSURANCE COMPANIES.

THE AMALGAMATED ENGINEERS

MORE WORKMEN WANTED.

RAILWAY ROBBERIES.

Twelve boxes with the following:

Mr. Blunt's Appeal.

RUSSIAN INTRIGUE IN BULGARIA
A Raid on the Frontier.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

and to Folsom during the summer.

ITALY AND ABYSSINIA.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

FRENCH REVENUE RETURNS.

IN IRELAND.

Replying to a resolution passed at a Conserva-

SHOCKING SUICIDE.

A HORSE EATEN BY PIGS.

THE CONFIDENCE TRICK AGAIN.

...CANNOT ME BRADLAUGH

COMMODITY MARKET

Portuguese 3 per Cent, 50/4, 5 Uruguay, 6 1/2, 8 1/2
BRITISH RAILWAYS.

Twelve thousand men are now out of em

ment in Canada and the United States own the closing of the glass-houses.

Mansion House.

Guildhall.

City Summons Court.

Bow-street.

Marlborough-street.

ER TWO MONTHS.—

Marylebone.

Clerkenwell.

Thames

Worship-street.

Westminster.

ON CASE.—Maurice

Lambeth.

Greenwich.

Hammersmith.

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West Ham.

Stratford.

ER AND THE L

Croydon.

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QUALITY.—An inque

FAIR ON THE

A CIGAR. — Dr.

A JEWISH MEDICAL CASE.

FOREIGN BEGGARS AT THE EAST-EN

"in the shape of relief would be received v

Colonel Murdoch Smith, B.E., director

Colonel Murdoch Smith, K.E., director of the Museum of Science and Art, Edinburgh, has been a K.C.I.B. member.

Twenty commissions as second lieutenants have been given to non-commissioned officers in the ranks during the past year.

The crew, eight in number, of a Yarmouth fishing smack, which was wrecked on the Good Sands the previous day, were landed at Dover Saturday.

On Saturday Mr. A. Braxton Hicks, the dispenser, was informed that the dead body of a prisoner named Parr was awaiting an inquest at the Wandsworth House of Correction.

Dr. Diplock was informed on Saturday of the death of an elderly lady named Mary Barrer, residing at 43, Edge-street, Notting Hill. The deceased was found at her bed and received into the mortuary at 10.30.

On Saturday Mr. Cartter, West Kent, received information that Sarah Webb, wife of a postman, living at 17, Brimley-street, Sharnbrook, Depton, had been found dead in bed.

EXCITING SCENE AT RAMSGATE.

Three Persons Shot.

Great excitement was caused in Ramsgate on Sunday night by the conduct of a man named Allen Richardson. At about twenty minutes past nine o'clock he was walking in George-street, when he suddenly accosted a young woman with the words, "You're the girl!" and immediately fired two shots from a revolver at her. Fortunately both shots missed their aim, but Richardson, passing on, met a man who is a member of the Salvation Army, and fired two shots at him, the bullets whizzing closely past his head. By this time a considerable crowd, attracted by the sound of firing, had gathered, and pursued Richardson, who fled at great speed. His pursuers, however, gained upon him. Finding himself nearly overtaken, he suddenly turned and fired at the foremost of the crowd. The shot struck a lad named Charles Pillow, who fell on the pavement, and was immediately raised by those behind and conveyed to a surgeon, and afterwards to the infirmary. A police-constable, named Sandom, being attracted by the noise, ran in the direction from which the sounds came, and joined the chase, but Richardson escaped to his house in Duncan-road. He was next seen at an upper window, in the front of his house, firing a double-barrelled gun in his hand. He was discharged both barrels at the crowd when one shot striking a young man named Moody in the head, whilst another struck a potman named William Fox. Both the sufferers were taken to a neighbouring surgery to have their injuries dressed, and were thence removed to the infirmary. About a dozen policemen subsequently arrived and broke into the house, Richardson having fastened himself in. After a severe struggle, he was arrested, and a man of independent means. At his house were found two revolvers, two pistols, and a revolver, with a quantity of ammunition. At the Ramsgate Police court on Monday, Allen William Richardson, aged 37, of The Sycamores, Duncan-road, Ramsgate, was charged with feloniously shooting Charles Pillow, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. George Pillow, of 12, Cavenham-street, Ramsgate, the wounded boy's brother, deposed that he was in Sanger's restaurant at twenty minutes to ten o'clock on the previous evening. He saw a man enter the restaurant, and heard him fire. He saw a girl run away and a man follow her. He and his brother, who turned into George-street, and with a revolver aimed at witness's brother. He, however, changed his mind, and ran down Broad-street into Thompson's alley. He stopped at the top of the alley. Witness was then within four yards of the prisoner, and was about to seize him, when he fired three shots. They missed witness, but the last one struck his brother, who ran a little way and fell. Witness caught hold of the prisoner's coat, but he got away and ran up Clifton-road into Duncan-road, where he went into his house. The prisoner then ran upstairs, locked the door, and got out his double-barrelled gun. He opened the window, and taking aim, fired. The shot struck William Fox. Witness remained outside prisoner's house until he was apprehended. Mr. John Henry Blackway, house surgeon at the Seamen's Infirmary, stated that on the previous evening Charles Pillow was admitted suffering from a shot wound in the thorax. He tried to extract the shot, but could not find it. The man was in a very critical condition from the effects of the wound. The accused was remanded. Richardson has been residing at Ramsgate for about four years, but was known as to his antecedents. He was constantly to be seen walking about with a walking-stick over his shoulder, shooting in all parts of East Kent appearing to be his principal amusement. When he appeared before the magistrates the accused wore a rough shooting costume and top boots. He is an active-looking man, of military appearance, about five feet ten inches in height. The reason for his conduct on Sunday is, of course, a matter of surmise, but it is reported that it was prompted by jealousy. Living with Richardson has been a young lady housekeeper, to whom he is said to have become attached. It is alleged that he discovered she had another suitor, and it was in the neighbourhood of the residence of the rival that he first fired the revolver. Moody, Fox, and Charles Pillow are now lying in the Seamen's Infirmary. The heads of the two former are covered with shot wounds, and Pillow has a bullet in the thorax. Only slight hopes are entertained of their recovery. George Pillow, who gave evidence before the magistrates, was wounded on the forehead, left shoulder, and left wrist. It seems that Richardson has quite lately covered his head with another attack of mania some time ago, being confined in an asylum, and since then he resided in Ramsgate he was obliged to be placed in charge of a keeper, yet he has always been considered a quiet man, whose chief amusements were yachting and shooting. It is rumoured that he has been a great traveller, and that he has been all round the world, and had made arrangements to take a similar trip, and was to have started on Tuesday last. Previous to his outrageous conduct on Sunday evening he behaved in such a threatening manner to his housekeeper that she had to make her escape, and was not in the house at the time of his capture.

AN AMUSING CASE.

At the Cumberland Quarter Sessions this week, William Storr, on bail, was charged with stealing a gamecock, value £5, from Joseph Haywood, Victoria. The prosecutor, a gamecock, O'Neill Dalton black-red breed, to take care of it for him. The bird was stolen, and he afterwards saw it at Dundraw, and found that it had been "dipped." Prisoner called upon him and promised to pay all expenses to settle the case. An amusing cross-examination was made by Mr. Shoo, barrister. Mr. Shoo: What do you keep gamecocks for? For show and breeding purposes. For fighting? No. They don't fight? They can't if they have mind. (Laughter.)—Come now, speak up, you know the constable won't hear anything about this. When they are in plain clothes they often fight. (Laughter.)—Afterwards, commenting upon witness's seeming dulness, Mr. Shoo said: Come, now, Mr. Haywood, if this cock was fighting with another, and a constable came up, you would not be so stupid as that. (Laughter.)—Cross-examining another witness, Mr. Shoo said: Where is the next cock fight going to take place? (Laughter.) I don't know. Is it going to be in this country? It may for anything I know. Have you to pay anything to go and see it, or can you get me a pass? (Laughter.)—Sergeant Shoo said to Lightfoot, admitted carrying a gamecock to Lightfoot Station, and seeing the prisoner in a public-house close by he pointed her out to the officers, who took her into custody. On being charged she said she knew nothing about the watch or the money; they must have been taken while the prosecutor was asleep. She added that the prosecutor was drunk, but this was denied, as also the prisoner's statement that he had gone to sleep. Albert Harrison, a detective of the L. Division, having given evidence as to the arrest of the prisoner and her denial of the charge, Mr. Shoo remanded her for a week, and ordered the coffee-house keeper to be summoned as a witness.

A NEW MISSION AT THE EAST-END.

A new mission, having for its object the benefit of the men employed at the large works of the Great Eastern Railway at Stratford, is about to be opened by a number of past and present members of Trinity College, Oxford. The undertaking, for which a sum of £200 a year has been guaranteed for five years, is to be started in the hope of "bridging over the gulf which separates class from class in London." A hall has been taken at Stratford, and the services will be held, and the same have been arranged where Trinity men will stay from time to time while taking part in the work. The whole movement is in charge of a committee of undergraduates. The mission hall will be formally opened on the 13th inst.

THE OLD NORTH DOL LIFEBOAT.

The old North Dol lifeboat, which has done such humane service on the Goodwin Sands during the last twenty years, is to be replaced by a boat 42ft. in length, with an iron keel of 30cwt.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE PRIZE FIGHTERS.

A Tissue of Lies Contradicted.

A telegram was despatched to Sandringham on Wednesday, where the Prince of Wales was present, inquiring if there was any truth in the statement recently published that his Royal highness was a member of the committee engaged in organising a public banquet to the pugilists, Smith and Kilrain, in recognition of the pluck exhibited by them in their recent encounter. In reply the following telegram was received from Sir Francis Knollys, the prince's private secretary:—"Not the slightest truth in the report, nor did the prince ever know that such a proposal existed." The Press Association says:—"We may state, in confirmation of the denial that has been forthrightly made from Sandringham, that the utmost indignation is expressed by the members, not only of the Smith-Kilrain banquet committee, but also of the Pelican Club, that a statement has been published that his Royal highness was acting on the committee. Those who are organising the banquet have never thought of approaching the prince on the subject. The whole story is flatly contradicted as a pure fabrication, and surprise is expressed that it should have found credence in any quarter. The committee, we are informed, is composed of Queenberry, Viscount Mandeville, Lord de Clifford, Sir Wm. Gordon Cumming, Bart., the Hon. Daniel Finch, Sir John Astley, Colonel Brown, Captain Drummond, Mr. Hugh Drummond, and Messrs. A. E. Wells, C. W. Blake, G. W. Atkinson, W. E. Harding, Richard K. Fox, Shirley Brookes, and S. Coleman. The banquet will take place, it is understood, at the Pelican Club at some date yet to be fixed, and it still remains to be decided what form the presentation to Smith and Kilrain shall assume. We have been requested by Mr. Wells, the proprietor of the Pelican Club, to contradict the amount that the Prince of Wales is a member of the club. This statement, like its predecessor, is entirely devoid of foundation." The same authority also states that one of its representatives has had an interview with Mr. Wells and with Captain Drummond, of the Scots Guards, and Mr. J. Fleming, Smith's manager, with reference to reports recently published in certain American journals and partially reproduced in this country as to what occurred at the London Ring School in Cleveland-road, St. James's, on the 28th December, when the Prince of Wales met Sullivan. All three persons declared the conversation represented to have taken place between the prince and the American pugilist to be, if not a tissue of falsehoods, at all events a gross exaggeration of what actually occurred.

SCHOOL BOARD EVENING CLASSES.

The evening classes established by the School Board for London in 1882 have each session greatly increased in number and in the effectiveness of their work. In the present session classes have been opened in no less than 123 schools, and more than 10,000 pupils have enrolled themselves. The classes will re-open after the Christmas vacation to-morrow. The subjects are varied as much as possible to meet the requirements of individual pupils, and are taught in an interesting and attractive manner. The Recreative Evening Schools Association, whose president is H.E.H. the Princess Louise, are rendering the board great assistance in this work. The classes are taught by well-qualified teachers. Prizes and certificates are awarded. The fee is, as a rule, only 3d. a week, and a great reduction is made if it be paid quarterly. A small extra fee is charged for French and shorthand. The classes are held in board schools in every district in the metropolis, and the positions of such schools and the evenings on which the classes meet are set out on posters affixed to every board school. Full particulars can be obtained at the classes on any Monday evening on and after January 9th.

A FEMALE VICTIM OF GAMBLING.

Another shocking suicide is reported to have taken place at Monte Carlo, the victim being a young, handsome, and, until she became a frequenter of the gaming-tables, a respectable woman. She came to Monte Carlo some years ago. She was tempted to try her luck at the roulette table. She lost, and she won. The dreadful passion for gambling was developed quickly in her. She frequented the tables daily. She played heavier and heavier stakes, and at the same time played more excitedly and rashly. Her gold diminished rapidly. Like almost every woman who frequents the Casino and the tables, she began to lead a life of vice. On the fatal day she went to the Casino as usual, but without her glittering jewels. She had them in her pocket. She was then seen in earnest converse with one of those hangers-on who make their living out of the gaming-room, by advancing to the players a "cleared out" money on their valuations. For a few shillings and francs this unhappy woman gave up her jewels. By nightfall she was a beggar. She was seen to enter her hotel about midnight. She went straight to her bedroom. What she did there was known the next day. About nine in the morning the chambermaid took hot water to her door. She knocked, but no response came, so she set it down outside and went away. A little later the porter came with letters. He, too, got no answer to his knock. At once suspicion was aroused. Those letters, it was thought, were not unused to fatal tragedies. The door was unlocked. A light form was seen hanging from the pole to which the window curtains were attached. It was the body of this wretched young woman. It was stiff and cold, showing that she had been dead some hours, but the awful expression and contortions of the face told that she had suffered terrible agonies whilst slowly dying by strangulation. The cord she used was cut from the window blind, and she had carefully soaped it to cause it to run more easily before adjusting it around her neck.

HOW THE BARMAN LOST HIS JUBILEE MONEY.

Rose Thorpe, 26, an "unfortunate," was charged at Southwark Police Court on Thursday, before Mr. Sheel, with stealing a silver watch and chain, value £3 10s., and £1 in money, the property of Arthur James Bagwell. The prosecutor, who described himself as a barman, stated that he met the prisoner on Tuesday outside the Victoria Station, and accompanied her to a coffee-house in Westminster Bridge-road, where they remained for a short time. While the witness was engaged washing his hands before leaving, the prisoner went out of the room, stating that she would be back in a minute but she never returned. After she had gone witness missed his watch and 21s. in jubilee money from his waistcoat pockets. He then gave information to the police, and the next evening he accompanied two detectives to the Victoria Station, and seeing the prisoner in a public-house close by he pointed her out to the officers, who took her into custody. On being charged she said she knew nothing about the watch or the money; they must have been taken while the prosecutor was asleep. She added that the prosecutor was drunk, but this was denied, as also the prisoner's statement that he had gone to sleep. Albert Harrison, a detective of the L. Division, having given evidence as to the arrest of the prisoner and her denial of the charge, Mr. Sheel remanded her for a week, and ordered the coffee-house keeper to be summoned as a witness.

A MAN NAMED GEORGE WATERS AND HIS SON SAMUEL.

A man named George Waters and his son Samuel, 17 years of age, were burned about the face by an explosion of gas on the premises of Mr. S. Clifford, 31, Grove End-road, St. John's Wood. The explosion resulted from a successful search after an escape of gas with a naked light. It is a mistake to suppose that wolves are becoming gradually extinct in France. During the recent Siberian weather which has been experienced throughout the country these animals made their appearance in many parts of the provinces, and were even seen in hamlets not far from Paris.

DESPERATE STRUGGLE WITH A HOUSEBREAKER.

At Marylebone Police Court, Albert Harding, 20, described as a clerk, of Harvey's Buildings, Strand, was charged with being concerned with a man not in custody with feloniously breaking and entering 10, Kenilworth-road, Kilburn, and stealing a lever watch, two pairs of gold earrings, a gold ring, a gold brooch, a gold bracelet, and a purse containing between 2s. and 30s., value about £10, the property of Ebenezer Lucas; he was further charged with assaulting Charles Langford, a detective of the X Division. The prosecutor said he left home about twenty minutes after six o'clock on Sunday night to go to chapel, having previously locked up the bed-room doors and the street door securely. He did not leave any one in the house. About half past seven he was called out of a chapel, and informed that his house had been broken into. On reaching his house he found it in the possession of the police, and there was unmistakable evidence that it had been broken into. The bed-room doors had also been forced open, apparently with a jemmy, and also the front door. The lockers were entirely broken off. In his bedroom he missed the watch from his dressing-table. The top drawer of a chest of drawers was forced open, and from it was stolen the money and the articles mentioned in the charge. Police-sergeant Curran, X Division, said he heard whistles blowing about half past seven, and went to Kenilworth-road, where he found the prisoner struggling with Constable Alfred Langford. Witness assisted in the removal of the prisoner to the street. On the way the prisoner put his hand into his coat pocket and drew out a jemmy, which he held aloft and threatened with it. Witness seized hold of it and found it contained the prisoner's watch and purse, which prisoner evidently intended to drop on the ground, and so get rid of them. Witness then and there searched the prisoner, and found two brooches and a bracelet in his pocket. 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THE PEOPLE MIXTURE.

In New South Wales one out of every fourteen deaths is performed civilly.

Mexico has been visited by another sharp earthquake shock.

Two first-class Russian war vessels are to be laid down at Nicolaieff early in February.

Recess Town House, lately occupied by Sir C. Dilke, has been opened as a free library.

The Alhambra Theatre at Antwerp has been destroyed by fire.

The Yorkshire Miners' Association have made arrangements to take a poll of the members on the question of asking for a 10 per cent. advance.

The barque Johanna, from Shields for Iquique, has been burned at sea. Light of her crew were lost.

The works of the Sheffield Water Company passed this week into the hands of the corporation and became the property of the town.

Twenty persons have sustained severe bruises and cuts in the collision of two trams at Finsbury Hall, Bradford.

There were only two cases for trial at the Hertford Quarter Sessions this week, both of them being of a criminal character.

Mr. L. de Rothschild has returned 30 per cent. of the rents due from his Buckinghamshire tenants for the half year ended Michaelmas.

The Rev. H. Guildford Sprigg, late vicar of Christ Church, Battersea, has been appointed a diocesan missionary in the diocese of Canterbury.

The number of unemployed at Bristol was stated to be 30,000. On a plan of registration being carried out only 1,100 names were registered.

The number of persons killed by mining explosions in 1887 was 142, or thirteen more than in the previous year. The average for the ten years ending in 1886 was 250.

At Botherham on Thursday, William Belwood and James Davis were committed for trial for forgery and uttering cheques on the Yorkshire Bank.

The Afghan Boundary commissioner, who is proceeding on his way to the Oxus to complete the Duchi-Bosaga line of demarcation, continues to send favourable reports of his progress.

At the conclusion of the jubilee mass in St. Peter's on Sunday the Pope retired to his apartments, where he rested for two hours, feeling no ill effects from the exertions of the morning.

The inauguration of the Lord Mayor and sheriff of Dublin has been postponed owing to Mr. T. Sexton, M.P., being ill, and to Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M.P., the retiring Lord Mayor, being in prison.

The Hungarian Minister of Public Instruction and Worship has addressed a letter to the Catholic Primate of Hungary, proposing fundamental reforms in the seminaries for priests and the abolition of the lesser seminaries.

According to the Times correspondent, the Italian newspapers state that Mr. Gladstone is going to Rome to treat with the Vatican for its support of Home Rule, and Monsignor Persico has already opened negotiations on that basis.

The third annual dinner of the employees of Leadhall Market was held on Monday at the London Tavern, Fenchurch-street. The assemblage comprised over 200 men employed in the market.

Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, has consented to be a patroness of the fancy dress ball to be held on the 9th of February, at the Hotel Metropole, in aid of the funds of the North London or University College Hospital.

The Admiralty have asked the dockyard authorities at Portsmouth to report upon the guns of the Indefatigable, and to say whether they could be made to serve for another commission of three years.

A number of the North Lancashire farmers are just now sending large quantities of potatoes across the Atlantic to meet the requirements of the American people arising from the failure of their crops.

The Rev. W. Budd, a superannuated Primitive Methodist minister, was giving out a hymn at New Buckenham on Sunday evening, when he suddenly fell back and expired almost immediately.

The dropping of a lighted match into a Newcastle sewer, at a point at which the gas was escaping into it, resulted in a part of the carriage way and some of the stonework in the street being lifted up.

A new train service has been commenced between Southall and Willesden, via Acton, affording direct communication between the Great Western suburban stations and those of the London and North-Western Railway, including Broad-street.

The Board of Trade have intimated to the promoters of the Channel Tunnel that if the bill which has been recently deposited by them in the Private Bill Office is persevered with, it will be the duty of the Government to oppose it in Parliament.

It is announced from Bucharest that a Royal decree has been promulgated fixing the number of recruits for the year at 15,500 for the standing and 250,000 for the territorial army. It is further stated that Roumania is entirely unpledged in the event of war.

News of the death of Colonel Dugenne, in Tonquin, has reached France. Although Colonel Dugenne was chiefly known for his repulse before the Chinese position at Bac-Lé in the summer of 1882, the French Army has lost in him a gallant and skilful officer.

Mr. John Hibbert, a Cardiff corn merchant, in 1876 failed, paying his creditors 10s. in the pound. He then promised that if his life was spared and business prospered, he would pay them all in full. This promise he has redeemed, each of his old creditors having received a cheque for the balance due. The gift represents £10,000.

New station buildings, which have been erected by the London and Brighton Company at Wandsworth Common, were opened this week. The new buildings will admit of the express trains to and from Brighton to Victoria passing through the station without interfering with the platforms connected with the local trains.

Several of the Vienna newspapers record with great satisfaction a report from Constantinople which says that Russian Pacha, the Turkish ambassador in London, has been assured by Lord Salisbury that England would never consent to have the existing distribution of power in the Mediterranean altered to Turkey's disadvantage.

The Earl of Jersey, speaking at the annual Deaf's festival at Oxford, said he differed from those persons who at a recent meeting in that city had declared that Free Trade was ruining the country, and he hoped the great agricultural industry would not forfeit the sympathy of the people by persisting in agitating for a return to Protection.

A statement has been published of the steps which have been taken to enable the War Office to produce the much-talked-of "two army corps," from which it appears that if we were to call out the 5,000 cavalry for the 1st Army Corps, it would only be possible to mount about 3,000 officers and men because of the "great deficiency in troop horses."

Two new public Acts which came into force on Monday were immediately put into operation. At Coventry the Danish Butter Company was fined £1 for selling as butter a substance which contained 90 per cent. of foreign fat. At Birmingham a prosecution has been commenced against Mr. A. Peel, jeweller, for giving a false description of jewellery to a German firm.

At the West Riding Sessions at Leeds, a grant of £200 was made out of the police superannuation fund to the widow of the late Superintendent Birkhill, who was shot dead at Olney while attempting to apprehend a man named William Taylor who had attempted to murder his wife, and afterwards fatally shot his child. Robert was

expressed that the court had no power to make a larger grant.

During 1887 sixty-eight lives were lost in connection with the fishing industry of Grimsby.

The Rev. George Parkinson has been sentenced at Bristol to a month's hard labour for obtaining money by false pretences.

Thirty midnight meetings for the redemption of fallen women in the metropolis have been arranged.

Lord Stanhope has returned 10 per cent. on the tenants on the Chevening estate on the half year's rent due at Michaelmas.

Mr. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., M.P., who has been ill with acute congestion of the lungs, is making steady progress towards recovery.

A miner of Ballarat, named Robert Wilkins, recently learnt that by the death of an obliging East Indian uncle he had succeeded to £240,000.

The railroad train used by the Czar in his travels is the same as was formerly used by Napoleon III. It consists of twenty cars.

Parcels not exceeding 40 lbs. in weight can now be received at any post office in the United Kingdom for transmission to Spain, via France.

The value of the personal estate of the late Mr. James Orison, general manager of the Great Western Railway, has been declared at £400,229.

At Little Hulton, Bolton, a lad, named Hollis, was warning his brother to come off the ice on a reservoir, when he himself fell in, and was drowned.

Since Lord Randolph Churchill's arrival in St. Petersburg the Russian press have been warmly advocating an understanding between England and Russia as advantageous for both countries.

Little Jamie Wighton, of Rutherglen, Glasgow, took down the whisky bottle from the shelf and consumed such a quantity of the liquor that he shortly afterwards died from alcoholic poisoning.

A new junction passenger station has been opened for traffic at Willington, Sussex, two miles from Eastbourne, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway.

The Pope received 2,500 congratulatory telegrams on Sunday. His Holiness, who is said to be perfectly well, will send autograph letters to the Sovereigns who have written to him.

A portion of the Wirral Railway scheme, which will connect West Kirby, Hoylake, and the parish of Wallasey with the Mersey Tunnel Railway, has been this week opened for traffic.

The incorporation of Richmond, Surrey, is again being discussed among the townspeople, and the promoters of the movement are sanguine of being successful during the present year.

The Duke of Edinburgh has withdrawn his annual subscription to the Royal and Canterbury Hospital, on the ground that as he is no longer a resident in the county he cannot remain a subscriber to the institution.

Some statistics published at Calcutta show that in India in 1873 there were 8,215 miles of railway open for traffic, and that length has now been increased to about 14,156 miles, while some 2,221 more are in course of construction.

An explosion of gas has occurred at the Bulworth workings of the Dugdale Colliery, Audley, North Staffordshire. No lives were lost, the 600 men employed in the pit having left off work owing to a fire in a portion of the mine a week ago.

Attention is drawn by the official Reichsanzeiger of Germany to the incorrect description of Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg in the "Almanach de Gotha" as "Prince of Bulgaria" with the title of "Royal Highness."

Lord Salisbury has sent £100 to the fund now being raised at the Mansion House for giving employment for 1,300 men now out of work in making gardens and pleasure grounds in the metropolis.

At Seaham Harbour a young man named Spence having gone into the sea on the back of a horse to wash its legs, the animal got out of control and swam out to sea, while the rider fell off and was drowned.

A destructive explosion has occurred at the works of the Equitable Gas Company in New York, which the officials of the company are of opinion was the result of a dynamite bomb thrown with the object of destroying the works.

While the Crown Princess Stephanie was dressing for dinner she accidentally burnt her right hand with a hot iron, but Professor Fuchs, oculist, after examining the eye, reported that it was fortunately uninjured.

The annual New Year's tea party in connection with the Royal Association of the Deaf and Dumb took place on Tuesday evening in the lecture hall of St. Saviour's Church for the Blind, Oxford-street. Over 150 deaf and dumb persons sat down to tea.

A public meeting held at the Lambeth Baths, under the presidency of Lord Hobhouse, adopted a resolution in favour of imposing a direct assessment upon the owners of ground rents and upon owners of increased values imparted to them by building operations or other improvements.

The Board of Trade have given rewards to the officers and crew of the Italian steamer Napoli, of Genoa, in recognition of their services in rescuing the shipwrecked crew of the barque Farway, of Swansea, which was wrecked in the South Atlantic on the 9th of September.

At the Greenwich Police Court, Robert Bryett, of 16, Roper-road, Deptford, has been sent to prison for a month by Mr. Montagu Williams for obtaining charitable contributions—coupons and bread to the value of 1s. 10d.—by false and fraudulent pretences.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has issued its annual statement, showing that the establishment charges incurred by the board in the performance of its various duties amount to £171,143, and that the number of officers employed is 1,660.

Owing to news of a revolutionary agitation among the Armenians in Asia Minor, the Turkish Government has caused the arrest of several well-known Armenians residing at Constantinople, as well as of certain monks and two bishops in Armenia.

John Cronin has been committed for trial from Westminster Police Court on a charge of attempting to commit a burglary at a shop in Dublin. He was discovered by a constable trying to force open a front door, and when taken into custody was found to have a journey in his possession. He had twice previously been convicted of crime.

At Croydon, the Rev. Ernest William Rendall, who gave his address as 11, Albert-square, Chelmsford, has been convicted of an assault on William Ruxton, station-master at East Croydon, and fined 20s. and 11s. costs. The defendant was smoking in the waiting-room, and, refusing to desist, he was ejected, when he used abusive language and struck the station-master with a stick.

At Spalding Quarter Sessions on Thursday, Daniel Hanson Read, of Boston, was charged with stealing a quantity of silver from Elizabeth Saul, of Boston. The prisoner was charged to be a servant to Miss Saul, but the day before the ceremony was to the place he decamped to Birmingham with a quantity of silver belonging to the presentrix. It subsequently transpired that he was a married man. He was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

Joseph Devey, ex-town councillor, and ex-member of the Board of Guardians, Wolverhampton, was released from Stafford Gaol on Thursday, after undergoing eight months' imprisonment for felony. On arrival at Wolverhampton Railway Station he was met by a large number of his friends, who were escorted through the waiting-rooms, in one of which Devey was escorted through the town with a brass band in uniform, playing a number of lively airs.

The London Fire brigade now has fifty-four engine stations, four lighting stations, and 133 escape stations; while at seven stations there is a night duty with hose carts; at ten stations day and night duties with hose carts; at four stations day and night duties with hose carts only; and at four

stations day and night duties with hose carts only.

The Russian Budget for 1888 will, it is stated, show a small surplus.

A new swift eight-gun sloop is to be commenced at Sheerness.

An order was passed at the last Council at Osborne embodying a new code of steam-whistle signals to be used by vessels on the Thames.

Earl Fitzwilliam has given the tenants on his English estates a reduction of 10 per cent. on all rents for the next three years.

The death was announced on Wednesday, in his 73rd year, of the Rev. William Denton, vicar of St. Bartholomew's, Moor-lane, Cripplegate.

The revenue in the United States in the half year just ended was \$195,000,000, showing an increase of \$28,000,000 over 1886, and the expenditure for the half year showed a reduction of \$3,000,000.

At the Dorset Quarter Sessions this week the finance committee required no county rate at all, owing to the grant on account of main roads recently received from the Government.

Lord Kesteven has promised to supply the labourers of Weston, near Spalding, with allotments. The land is to be let to a small committee of working men, who will sub-let the same.

During the past month twenty-nine certificates of naturalisation were issued to aliens by the Home Secretary under the provisions of the Naturalisation Act, 1870.

Fire occurred in process of manufacture or storage will in future be deemed an explosive within the meaning of the Explosives Act, subject to certain exceptions.

One result of the outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia in Dorset is the slaughter of a herd of cattle at Gillingham numbering 140 beasts, and valued at £1,700.

The revenue for the last quarter of the year for the colony of Victoria amounted to £1,837,000, this being an increase of £165,000 as compared with the corresponding period of 1886.

"Pilgrim's Progress" has just been translated into the language of the Fantes, a tribe occupying a district in Upper Guinea, on the Gold Coast.

Sir E. Clarke, M.P., speaking at Plymouth on Tuesday, said it was a remarkable testimony to the way in which Lord Salisbury had conducted our foreign affairs that there was not a cloud between us and any other country in the world.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April to December 31st were £29,053,610, against £29,433,328 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year. The net expenditure was £29,818,565 against £27,733,682.

Another of the Lord Chancellor's livings, that of St. John's, Bromfield, Derby, of the value of £290 a year, has fallen vacant by the death of the Rev. W. H. Smith, in his 70th year. He had been rector of the parish for twenty-five years.

As John Holland, a lad of 15, was sliding at about twenty yards from the bank on a Bury pond, the ice gave way, and the unfortunate youth sank in eight feet of water. His body was recovered an hour afterwards.

The Reading railway strike is practically over, the men being defeated; but this has been succeeded by a strike of colliers in Pennsylvania, which affects 22,000 men, and threatens to cause inconvenience to the consumers of coal owing to the scantiness of the supply.

Information has reached Belfast that a member of the Royal family will visit Ireland during the summer. The Royal visitor will be the guest of the Duke of Abercorn, at Baroncourt, and one item in the programme will be the opening of Belfast New Free Library.

Bethnal Green Free Library was opened to the public on Tuesday, after having been closed for cleaning during the Christmas holidays. The handsome and spacious library has been partially completed, giving it a cheerful and comfortable appearance.

The recent revelations as to the manner in which decorations are obtained in France do not appear to have materially depreciated their value. The number of requests for the ribbon of the Legion of Honour on the occasion of New Year's Day amounted to no less than 27,000.

A low, wooded island, hitherto uncharted, has been discovered lying westward of Selaru, Timor Laut Islands. The island is reported to be about two miles long in a north-north-easterly and south-south-westerly direction, and about two-thirds of a mile broad.

The vicar of the Church of the Ascension, Lavender Hill, the Rev. C. S. Wallace, marked the expiring days of the Old Year with the representation of a series of Scripture events by a number of "sacred tableaux," constituting, as it were, a Bible lesson, illustrated with living figures.

The Bishop of London delivered an address at the City Young Men's Christian Association, Metal Exchange, Leadenhall-street, on Tuesday night, urging the necessity of a real and perfect consecration of life to God, and the responsibility which rested upon every Christian of endeavouring to remove the crying national evils.

As a train of the London and South-Western Company was entering Tulse Hill Station on Tuesday morning, the engine left the rails and fell over on its side, dragging with it three carriages. The passengers were shaken, but no one was injured, except the engine-driver, and he not seriously. The line of the company and the Brighton line were obstructed for several hours.

At the Bridge Petty Sessions on Tuesday, Emma Rose West, wife of an ostler, was committed for trial on charges of having administered laudanum to her two children and herself. The prisoner and the two children were found unconscious in bed, and a letter, asking her husband to bury her "against little Will at Scawby," was also discovered.

Mr. Benjamin Davis, booking clerk of the Pembroke and Tenby Railway at Pembroke Station, was attacked by three men near the town, and the keys of the station were taken from him. The assistance of the police was sought, but before they could reach the station the thieves had succeeded in entering it, and in extracting £34 from the safe.

At the Forth-Street Police Court, the East London Works company answered an adjourned summons taken out by W. C. Green, a baker, who stated that he was kept without water, which the company refused to turn on unless he paid six quarters' rates due to them by the former tenant. As the complainant did not appear, and it was stated that the water had been laid on, Mr. Haunay dismissed the summons.

Colonel Rich, representing the Board of Trade, attended at Sandwich at the adjourned inquest on the woman who was killed at a level crossing there. Colonel Rich considered that great blame must be attached either to the driver of the engine for running over the woman through carelessness, or to the railway company for allowing the traffic to be carried on without a man being stationed at the gates while the signals were defective.

Mr. J. Bindell Maple, M.P., was present at a meeting of the members of the West Newington Conservative Club, Walworth-road, on Tuesday night. Mr. Albert presiding, and in the course of the proceedings addressed the gathering, urging the necessity of making a united effort on behalf of the Conservatives and Unionists of South London to return Mr. Darling in the approaching election at Deptford by an enormous majority, and individually to work on his behalf.

John Derry, of Solen New-road, Clapham, was summoned at the Marlborough-street Police Court on Monday for unlawfully leaving open a pit to the common danger of passengers. The defendant was executing some repairs in Cranborne-street, and had occasion to dig a hole in the pavement. On the evening of the 21st ult. a young man named Littlestone, not preserving the hole, fell into it and sustained serious injuries that he had to go to the hospital. Mr. Newton thought the defendant had

left the place unprotected and ordered him to pay a fine of 40s.

The death-rate of London rose last week to 27.3 per thousand annually. There was an excessive mortality from whooping-cough.

A jubilee window has been presented to St. Martin's, Westminster, by the parishioners in honour of her Majesty's jubilee.

The Duke of Norfolk has been to Osborne on a visit to the Queen. The message which his grace conveyed to her Majesty from the Pope was received with the most gracious favour by the Queen.

The first rods of the new steel works of the Dowdall Company at Cardiff were cut this week. The works are to cost £500,000. It is anticipated that the establishment of works at Cardiff will give a strong impetus to trade.

Messrs. William Denny and Brothers, of Dumbarton, have secured an important contract for building two steel steamships of 3,000 tons each for the Compania Transatlantica de Spain for their mail contract.

Sir James Oldknow, who was knighted on the occasion of the Prince of Wales's visit in 1875 to Nottingham to open the Castle Art Museum, died on Tuesday. He took a prominent part in local affairs.

The annual festival was held in the Seamen's Christian Friend Society's buildings in Ratcliffe Highway on Monday afternoon and evening, when between 300 and 400 seamen from the shipping in the various docks and wharfs of London were present.

Sir C. Dilke, presiding on Wednesday at the house dinner of the Hammersmith Liberal Club, said he had no intention to return to Parliamentary life until he had vindicated his honour by the law. Upon public matters he devoted his remarks chiefly to the question of local self-government.

Two bookmakers, named Sharp and Buckmaster, who were found guilty at Berkshire Michaelmas Sessions of betting offences at Ascot, and whose conviction was on appeal upheld, surrendered at Berkshire Epiphany Sessions at Reading, and were each sentenced to three months' hard labour.

At the Lambeth Police Court, Walter Hassell, 34, a waiter, living in Oxford-street, Stepney, pleaded guilty to stealing a quantity of silver-plated knives, forks, and spoons, value £5, from the Crystal Palace, where he was employed, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Sir Arthur Blackwood, secretary of the Post Office, appealed to the Berks Quarter Sessions against a decision of the Windsor Justices convicting him of a breach of the Thames bye-laws in obstructing the procession of Eton boats on June 4th last. The evidence was extremely conflicting, but without costs.

Part of the front wall of one of the houses at the corner of Parliament-street, now in course of demolition, fell through the hoarding on Wednesday on to the footpath and roadway. Three persons who were passing at the time were knocked down, but fortunately only received slight injuries, and after being attended to at the hospital, were enabled to proceed to their homes.

John Cook, photographer, was brought before Mr. De Rutzen, at the Marylebone Police Court, on eight distinct charges of stealing jewellery, and was committed for trial. It was alleged against him that he was in the habit of visiting houses where there were furnished apartments to let, and while examining the rooms, to ransack the drawers and cupboards.

Speaking at Sandown on Wednesday night, the Attorney-General expressed the conviction that there was no ground for apprehension on the part of England in regard to the war cloud now hanging over Europe. As to the condition of the Conservative party, the right hon. gentleman considered it sound, and said the Unionists were being drawn closer and closer together.

At the Worship-street Police Court, Edward Arthur Sawyer was remanded on the charge of bigamy. It is alleged that the accused married a woman in 1884, and lived with her up to some time last year. He married another woman last October, but the second wife having discovered that he had a wife living, sent for her father, who gave the accused into custody.

Charles Hayward, the Kentish "anti-vaccination martyr," was at Ashford, on Wednesday, summoned for the thirtieth time for refusing to carry out the orders of the East Ashford guardians and have his children vaccinated. Hayward was first convicted in 1885, and up to December 19th he had been fined altogether a sum of £240 5s.

The magistrates made the usual order, with costs. At the East Riding of Yorkshire Quarter Sessions, at Beverley, George Roland, alias Charles Howard, alias Frank Smith, William Robinson, alias Michael O'Brien, and Clara Black, alias Emily White, alias Brian, who had been several times convicted of theft at various places, were each sentenced to seven years' penal servitude for picking pockets at Beverley Fair in November.

A curious accident has occurred at Dog-lane, Rowley. The heat from some furnaces adjoining the Birmingham Canal penetrated the embankment, which is made of cinders, and, extending through the puddling, reached the water. A loud explosion followed, fifty yards of the embankment being torn away. A vast quantity of water immediately poured down, flooding the neighbouring streets and houses.

A large audience assembled on Wednesday night at the South-place Institute, Finsbury, on the invitation of Mrs. Bigwood, dame president of the local habitation of the Primrose League, when an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music and recitations was given. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Bigwood, M.P., and Mr. H. C. Richards addressed the audience on the political situation, and a resolution of confidence in the Government was carried unanimously.

At the Marylebone Police Court, George Chapman has been committed for trial on the charge of having stabbed a police-sergent with intent to murder him. The prisoner having been taken to hospital from a collar-house, attacked the officer, and it is alleged, stabbed him with a long knife. When he returned to the police station he felt faint, and it was then discovered that he had received a wound which would probably have proved fatal had not the knife been turned by one of the officer's ribs.

Elizabeth Tobin, a tailor's wife, and Ada Shen, a young married woman, were charged at the Marlborough-street Police Court with disorderly conduct. A constable aware that on Monday night he saw the accused in male attire surrounded by a large crowd. The husband of the defendant Shen explained that his wife and Tobin went to see some friends in an omnibus, and to prevent him leaving the house they took his hat and coat. The accused were discharged, having entered into recognisances for their good behaviour.

Thomas Dyson, solicitor, was charged at Prescott Petty Sessions with being drunk in a railway carriage, with assaulting Rose Coulter, and also with annoying passengers in a railway carriage on the 29th ult. The evidence of the two girls showed that the defendant offered them a drink, and spoke to them in the carriage, and the girl when it was going at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour. The defendant was fined for drunkenness and for annoying the passengers, and acquitted on the charge of assault.

Mr. Stanhope, the Minister for War, addressing a meeting at Spilby on Wednesday said he had every reason to believe that during the present year the defence of all the most important commanding positions of the empire would be carried to a satisfactory conclusion. He gathered that the country was well satisfied that Ireland was now being governed, and that the people were contented to submit to the ordinary laws of the country. The Government had resolved to continue in the future, and would also take steps next session to check the wanton waste of time in the House of Commons and put down obstruction.

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The subject's VERY serious, and MAKES me find my tongue!

Ah! could I rule in baby-land, if only for a day,
"Tis MRS. JOHNSON'S SYRUP that alone should hold
sway!

For though it comes to soothe us, like an angel in our need,
'Tis harmless as the summer air, and brings us peace, indeed.

For just a century, until this year of Jubilee,
The prize was \$25., that now is less than half, I see!
So, mothers, there is no excuse for baby's painful grumblings—
And, if I've told a story, may I never suck my thumbs!

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THE GAMEKEEPER'S STORY.

THERE are very few men in England who are naturally more hearty and healthy than James Braddock. He is a gamekeeper, and lives at Jepsen's Clough, Adlington, near Macclesfield. He is stoutly built, and until two years ago, we may say, he never had a week's illness in the whole sixty years of his life. One day this summer (1887) he was found at home, and in the course of the talk that sprang up, Braddock told the following story, which we print because it will interest many besides himself.

He said: "Perhaps you have already heard about my case, and, if so, it's no use my telling it all over again."

"I heard it alluded to in Manchester," was the answer, "but I should like to hear it from your own lips."

"Well, sir," said James, "I'll run it over for you. I've told it lots of times, and it's always done good to somebody. It was two years ago this summer that I was taken very bad with indigestion. How ill I was, and how I finally got cured, is no news to the people in this part of the country, sir. Scores of them came from far and near to see me and talk to me about it. I first noticed a dull feeling all over me, and my appetite failed so I could eat nothing without just forcing it down, sir; and then it lay like a heavy weight on my stomach. Food used to make me feel strong for work and exercise, but now it seemed to do me no good at all. My mouth tasted bad, and when I looked in the glass I saw my skin and eyes had a yellow colour, and people said I was dreadfully bilious, my liver was out of order, and my blood all full of poison. And so I believed, for my head ached and my legs and arms ached, as though I had some manner of fever hold of me. I took pills, and a hundred other medicines, but they only made me feel a little easier for a day or two, and then I was worse than ever."

"After a bit, sir, I began to be short of breath, you know, and had to sit down and rest, when once I could tramp all day without being tired or once fetching a long breath. I couldn't make out what was the matter with me or whatever had brought it on, but I kept on getting worse, and that much I was sure of. My heart would flutter and get weak and faint in my breast, and

that frightened me more than the stomach trouble, for I didn't know then that the indigestion and dyspepsia were really the cause of it all, sir. People kept telling me I had the heart complaint, and was likely to fall down dead any minute. You may fancy how this took all the courage out of me, and I thought my work was done in this world. So it went on, sir, and neither my friends nor the doctors appeared to understand what was ailing me."

"One day I was taken with such a queer spell, it almost scares me to think back of it. I couldn't get my breath. I was choked as though a strong man had me by the throat, and I was sure I was going to die. The people fanned me and gave me whisky, and after a while I came out of it, weak as a cat, sir, and all in a cold sweat."

"But my stomach got worse afterwards, and I was afraid the choking might come back, and the next time it would certainly kill me. It was about this time, one day, I picked up a North Cheshire newspaper and read of a case like mine being cured by Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I thought half-a-crown would na' break me, and I bought a bottle. The first few doses did me good, sir. You wouldn't 'a' believed it, neither would I, but it did. In a few days, maybe two weeks, sir, my stomach began to act, and my vitals stopped on it, and my strength begun to come back."

"You had no more choking, then?" said the visitor.

"No, sir, not after that. The fluttering of the heart troubled me no more, and the yellow went out of my eyes and skin; and, to put it short, sir, after taking two bottles of Mother Seigel's Syrup I got as well as I ever was in my life. What this medicine is made of I don't know, but I'm sure that it's not like anything else. If I hadn't seen that account of it in the paper, and been led to use it, as certain as I talk to you now, sir, I believe I should have been under the sod months and months ago. I tell about it to everybody, and will do so as long as I have a tongue in my head, sir."

Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup is for sale by all chemists and medicine vendors, and by the proprietors, A. J. White (Limited), 35, Farringdon-road, London. Price 2s. 6d. per bottle.

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" 70 " " " 1 p.
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Larger amounts in the same proportion.
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